



## BMA fears elderly will be victimised by health reforms

By JOHN YOUNG

NATIONAL Health Service reforms may make it more difficult for elderly people to obtain specialised hospital treatment, according to the British Medical Association. Its reservations echo those already voiced by other organisations concerned with patients' welfare.

The association is unwilling to concede that the elderly are already suffering discrimination, but it says that they are the biggest users of health services and therefore the most vulnerable as hospitals run out of money and are forced to close beds and reduce the number of operations.

For the elderly, there are few grains of comfort to be gained from the knowledge that the NHS is nearly half a century old. The noble idea, conceived during the second world war, that everyone.

regardless of wealth or social standing, should have access to the best medical treatment if it is compromised by the economic realities of the times. "In what appears to be a renewed funding crisis, it would be totally unacceptable for the admission of patients to specialist treatment to be determined on anything other than clinical grounds," a BMA spokesman said.

An authoritative report published earlier this month suggested that older people faced discrimination in access to coronary care on the grounds of their age alone, and might be placed at a further disadvantage by the health service reforms.

The report, commissioned by the Carnegie Trust, said that overt discrimination could arise if purchasing authorities negotiated separate contracts for different age groups. There could be covert discrimination if hospital trusts, operating on a flat rate of payment, designated older people, whose length of stay might be longer than average, as "medically" unsuitable for treatment, when the true criterion was their poorer profit margin.

"We fear that fiscal pressures will lead to such age discrimination unless case mix specifications are rigorous and are monitored by specific audit," the report said. Older people should not be offered prosthetic care until all possibilities for therapeutic intervention had been explored.

The authors of the report referred to the recent Dudley and Burns study in which questionnaires were sent to all 175 consultants in charge of coronary care units in the UK. Of the 134 who replied, 26 said they operated an age-related admission policy, with age limits ranging from 65 to 80. A further 46 employed age as a criterion when determining the use of expensive but potentially life-saving thrombolytic drugs.

Toby Harris, director of the Association of Community Health Councils, said that he had been worried since the start of the changes in the health service that some sort of rationing would be introduced. Although the association had no direct evidence, the Carnegie report confirmed its fears. "It is important that there should be a proper public debate about who is going to get treatment and who isn't," he said.

Age Concern said that older people should never be denied treatment solely on the grounds of their age. "Before any decision regarding treatment is taken, a full assessment of the person's condition, and how beneficial treatment would be, must be made," a spokesman said.

Lord Callaghan congratulated Sir Edward for coming closer than anybody to closing a deal with the miners, forgetting to mention their terminal damage to the Heath government. Sir Edward, in turn, implicitly criticised Mr Heseltine's handling of the pit closures, without mentioning that the president of the board of trade was once one of his own protégés.

Lord Callaghan said the Major government was "accident-prone" and commented: "The government does not know where it is going, stumbling from one place to another."

Sir Edward cited the mishandling of the pit closures as evidence of ministers taking decisions without realising the consequences. It was much worse than carelessness, he said; it was "an attitude of mind".

Lord Callaghan, when chided about the fatal "Crisis, what crisis?" comment attributed to him when prime minister, conceded that towards the end "I got rather tired and I was not as quick on my feet".

"Do we really mean it when we say we want people to go into healthy old age, or is it just lip service? These are ethical questions which we are going to face more and more," she said. "I think there will have to be careful scrutiny of NHS contracts. This whole rationing problem is going to come home to roost."

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Freeman, 65, took with him his crazy catchphrases, including "Not art", his curious nickname "Fluff", and his trademark brassy theme tune, which ensured that if your radio started blaring "Deeyan, deeyan, deeyan, deeyan, deeyan, deeyan, deeyan, deeyan", Fluff was about to call you a pop-picker.

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records he plugged in the 1960s.

Like them, he proved that the bad fail early, but the good age well. He will continue to work for Radio 1 on a Saturday evening rock music programme.

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Freeman's longevity in pop proves you didn

# Missing girl, 14, is found murdered in water-filled pit

By JOHN VINCENT

A ROUTINE search for a girl missing from home turned into a murder hunt yesterday after her partially clothed body was found in a water-filled pit. Johanna Young, 14, had been hit on the back of the head and had been sexually assaulted, police said.

Johanna had left her home in Watton, Norfolk, on Wednesday evening and was last seen outside a fish and chip shop in the high street about 8pm. Her parents, Robert and Carol Young, joined the police search, believing that she had made a spur-of-the-moment decision to go away after a recent break-up with her boy friend. At first police were concerned for her safety primarily because of the cold and had no reason to fear that she had been abducted or killed.

On Boxing day, after a police search of woods and isolated farm buildings, her body, minus jeans and under-clothing, was found in a pit a mile from her home. Det Supt Michael Cole, leading the murder enquiry, said that she had been hit on the head before being dumped. "The indications are that she was sexually assaulted, although there is no evidence of rape," he said. "The man who did this was a brutal, unfeeling killer."

He added that a man walking his dog had found Johanna's trainers neatly placed side by side in a hedgerow 400 yards from the body. Her underclothes were in the road 200 yards away. Her jeans were still missing. A

police dog later found the body in the 7ft pit, down a muddy cul-de-sac often used by courting couples, suggesting to detectives that the killer may have known the area. The body was recovered by police divers on Saturday night.

Johanna's former boyfriend, Ryan Firman, 17, with whom she had been going out for four months before breaking up with him two days before her disappearance, had provided police with background information and helped in the search.

Mr Young, 40, said of his daughter: "The last time I saw her she was bubbly and full of life. She had no cares. She had no enemies in the world — she was such a happy, friendly girl. The last few days have been absolute hell for us. We first began to get worried about her on Thursday morning when she did not turn up to do her paper round."

Her grandfather, Stanley Young, said: "She is one of 13 granddaughters and although we didn't see a lot of her, we loved her. You see this sort of thing on television and it doesn't mean much, but when it is one of your own your mind is in turmoil."

The murder is the latest in a string of attacks and disappearances in Norfolk — many unsolved — since Easter, 1989, when a bicycle belonging to April Fabb, 13, was found undamaged in a field near her home at Cromer. She has never been traced. Five months later, Steven Newing, 11, vanished outside his home in Fakenham.

Susan Long, 17, was found strangled and sexually assaulted at Aysham in 1970 and four years later the headless body of a woman in a nightdress was dumped at Swaffham. In the same month, Pamela Exall, 21, vanished on a camping holiday at Snitterfield. In 1977, the partly clothed body of Heidi Reddin, 14, was found in a water-filled ditch two miles from her home at Downham Market.

Three months ago, Natalie Peartman, a prostitute aged 16, was murdered and dumped in woodland near Norwich.

**Orkney truce offered**

By RAY CLANCY

ONE of the mothers at the centre of the child sex abuse allegations in Orkney has offered to drop her court action against the island council.

Mrs M told the council in writing that she would stop her proceedings in return for a full public apology by New Year's eve. Her offer does not affect the civil action being taken by 18 other individuals connected with the scandal. They are continuing with their claims for compensation after being vindicated by Lord Clyde's report, published in October.

"I am trying to free the

Johanna: last seen on Wednesday night



Walking it off: the winter sun brought the post-Christmas ramblers out on Box Hill, near Dorking, yesterday

## Best steps for a hangover may be across fields

By JOHN YOUNG

THE countryside and the open spaces are not just for summer. Townies faced with days of leisure until the new year could cure hangovers by stretching their limbs and opening their lungs to a dose of fresh air.

To start with, there is the old standby: a good walk. Given a bright, frosty day the countryside in winter offers clear, uninterrupted views across bare trees and silent fields.

Despite the protests about farmers

and landowners blocking rights of way, there are thousands of miles of well marked footpaths and bridleways. There is no need to drive to the coast or a national park; most county councils produce guidebooks and leaflets on local walks.

For those reluctant to trust their own navigation, the National Trust and the Ramblers' Association have joined in organising guided walks in Wexford over the holidays. Walking points include Stourhead, Wiltshire, 10.30am tomorrow; Corfe Castle,

Dorset, 11am on Wednesday; Wookey Hole, Somerset, 11am on Wednesday; Lambert's Castle, Dorset, 11am on Friday; and Lacock, Wiltshire, 11am on Saturday.

For the more energetic, there are New Year's day road races. Serious competitors need to train but there is usually nothing to stop the bystander joining in for a mile or two at the back of the pack. Details can be found in *Athletics Weekly* and *Athletics Today*. For would-be cyclists and horseriders local newspaper and magazine adver-

## 48 prison rioters likely to face mutiny charges

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE riot at Reading remand centre, which ended late on Saturday night, is likely to lead to 48 inmates facing charges of assault, arson and prison mutiny.

As police and the governor began investigating the violence and destruction, prison officers yesterday assessed the damage. Trouble erupted when the inmates refused to return to their cells at the end of a recreation period. One report suggested the riot was sparked because they were not allowed to watch *The Darling Buds of May*.

Paul Dixon, the governor, described the destruction as "wanton vandalism". The rioters occupied a wing at the centre for three hours, smashing furniture and lighting fires before officers in riot gear stormed into the building and regained control. Only 11 officers had been on duty to control the 128 inmates in the centre and staff were forced to withdraw from the wing as the trouble began. At one point, four inmates seized a van and tried to break out by ramming a security gate.

Rioters caused extensive destruction to the gymnasium, recreation centre, and education department. Televisions were smashed, washbasins ripped out, computers and

printers wrecked, and light fittings, table-tennis and pool tables destroyed.

The gym was gutted by fire after inmates set office furniture alight. Mr Dixon said: "I feel very disappointed. We were trying to provide the best facilities we could in the circumstances and they just went on the rampage." There was a new offence of prison mutiny carrying a sentence of ten years, and charges were likely to be added.

Yesterday it emerged that the Board of Visitors had warned the Home Office that the building was not suitable for holding young remand prisoners from distant counties. Salma Tognarelli, chairman of the centre's board, said it was in an unsuitable location "as it is in the centre of town and has only two exercise yards. We feel strongly that young prisoners need to get rid of their pent-up energy with lots of exercise".

The riot ended when up to 150 officers from the centre and 11 other prison service centres retook control. Three were taken to hospital with injuries suffered in clashes with inmates. Forty inmates who did not want to be involved in the riot gave themselves up to the police and were taken to Reading police station.

## Clarke cracks down on tearaways

A NETWORK of secure units for persistent young offenders is being considered by the Home Office (Richard Ford writes).

Keneth Clarke is anxious to act against a small group of hard-core offenders who, he believes, must be restrained through a tough regime that also offers affection. The move follows a decade in which emphasis has been placed on

punishment within the community. In 1990, 90 per cent of boys aged 10-13 found guilty or cautioned for indictable offences in England and Wales were cautioned, 69 per cent of those aged 14-16, and 21 per cent aged 17-20.

Three months ago, Mr Clarke signalled his unhappiness with the results of this strategy, telling the Conservative party that a small number

of children were committing a large number of crimes.

Prison Reform Trust figures show that the minimum age for imprisonment in England and Wales is similar to other European countries. In England and Wales it is 15, the same as in Denmark and Sweden. It is 14 in Italy and 16 in Holland.

Leading article, page 11

## Tour firms cut prices to woo early bookers

By HARVEY ELLIOTT  
TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

THE seasonal battle to entice potential holidaymakers into travel agencies will reach a climax over the next few days with a multi-million-pound television advertising bombardment by the three biggest holiday companies. The dilemma for the customer is whether to take advantage of the reduced prices now or to see if they come down further.

Charles Newbold, managing director of Thomson, the biggest holiday company, is unequivocal. "We have cut the price of one million holidays out of the total number on sale for next summer of about two and a quarter million. When they have gone, the others will be sold at the original price."

The price cuts initiated by Thomson, reducing some package holidays by about £50 and cutting the company's original planned revenue by £50 million, are being increased by a fierce battle among high street travel agents. Each of the big three — Thomson, Owners Abroad and Airtours — have integrated travel organisations with tour operators, airlines and travel agents, each owned by the same parent organisation or with cross-investment.

Travel agencies normally charge about 10 per cent commission to the tour operator to sell their product, with additional profit generated by selling insurance cover and special deals. Lunn Poly, part of the Thomson group, is virtually forgoing its commission by cutting 10 per cent from the brochure price of every holiday it sells between now and January 2. The move will be matched by Thomas Cook and Pickfords.

Early bookings are of vital importance to travel agents and to tour operators because they not only bring in immediate cash but also enable the firms to predict the year's bookings. About 11 million holidays will be sold this year. Research has shown that 35 per cent are booked within two months of departure, 40 per cent up to six months ahead and 22 per cent more than seven months ahead.

Optimistic shops, page 1

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"I am trying to free the

island and make some kind of progress. I want to drop the civil action and just go for a public retraction and denial," said Mrs M, whose two youngest sons were taken from their home on South Ronaldsay in dawn raids in February 1991. Seven children were removed from other homes. Mrs M said that she was making a genuine appeal to the council at a time of year when forgiveness was uppermost in people's minds.

A spokesman for the council said that the letter had been received but refused to comment further or to say whether a reply was being considered.

**British chess celebrates remarkable year**

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

POLAR and Bareev practise en route to Hastings

has pushed Short into the final of the world championship qualifying competition. On January 10 he will play out this final match in Madrid against the Dutchman Jan Timman, and if Short wins he will go on to challenge the world champion Gary Kasparov. Even if Short loses, he will already be assured of

history of chess the only other player to have come close to this is Bobby Fischer, who reached 2,785 points in 1972.

This year was also notable for the return of Fischer in a match carrying a world-record purse against his old foe Boris Spassky, held in the former Yugoslavia. Fischer triumphed by ten wins to five and earned himself the winner's slice of the purse — over £2 million.

The Hastings event, founded in 1895, is the oldest traditional tournament in the world. This year's event is an elite contest for eight players run on a double-round format and the main attraction is Judit Polgar, 16, the prodigy from Hungary. Polgar broke Bobby Fischer's record, which had stood since 1958, by becoming the youngest grandmaster.

The line-up facing her includes last year's winner, Evgeny Bareev from Moscow, and British grandmasters Jon Speelman and John Nunn.

Perhaps the most exciting prospect for British chess at Hastings is our own prodigy Matthew Sadler, 18, from Rochester, who has challenged Polgar in the past and, with a good result, could become Britain's youngest grandmaster. Hastings' contentious until January 13.

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DERBY 11/13 BARBROOK LANE, OFF ST. PETERS STREET 0332 43913

GUILDFORD 8 NORTH ST, OFF ARBOURS HOTEL/JOHN CENTRE 0483 451123

MAIDSTONE 25 CHURCH SQUARE, TOP LEVEL, BEHIND HARROGATE 0273 208291

MELLIS SUFFOLK THE OLD MILL, MELES, BET A140/143, NR. FULFORD 0379 783588

NORTHAMPTON 102A ADDINGTON ST, OFF BBC RADIO NORTHAMPTON 0604 28545

NORWICH 89/101 PRINCE OF WALES RD, NEXT TO HOTEL NELSON 0603 676389

PALMERS GREEN 30/30/11 GREEN LANE, OPPOSITE THAMES 081 886 7514

READING WILDEA STREET, BY WEDGES D.I.Y. COMPLEX 0734 535352

SHEFFIELD 24 CHARTER SQUARE, OPPOSITE DEPARTMENT 0742 222801

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## Murder of captain prompts warning on high seas piracy

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE body of a British sea captain murdered by pirates in the South China Sea has been flown home for burial as the government moved to issue a written piracy warning, the first in modern maritime history.

Captain John Bashforth, 45, of Hathersage, north Derbyshire, was shot in the head after refusing to hand over money when his ship, the *Baltimore Zephyr*, was boarded on December 11 by five men as it sailed off Indonesia with a cargo of mining equipment.

Captain Bashforth will be buried at his parish church, said his younger brother, Bob Bashforth, a Chesterfield solicitor. He said: "My brother is the sort of guy to grit his teeth and tell them to go jump in the sea. He was utterly devoted to duty. I don't think he could have handed anything over on the ship and live with his conscience, but unfortunately it cost him his life."

Captain Bashforth joined the merchant service at 17 and rose through the ranks to captain by his mid-thirties. His first officer, a Filipino, was also killed in what is thought to be the ninety-third pirate attack this year.

Seventy-five of the raids on merchant ships were in Asian waters and 53 of these were off Indonesia, according to the regional anti-piracy centre at the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur, established by the International Maritime Bureau in October.

The written government warning to be made early in the new year by the transport department is expected to advise on how to reduce the risk of attack through high-profile deck patrols, with searchlights at night, and to stress the importance of complying with pirates' demands once measures to deter them from boarding have failed.

The government will also advise masters to contact search and rescue co-ordination centres such as the British coastguard system and sail immediately to the nearest port for forensic science examination of their vessels and to help collect evidence.

The government is to pro-

mote collaboration with other seafaring nations within the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the United Nations agency responsible for safe shipping, but has rejected calls in the House of Lords earlier this year for an international naval force under the auspices of the UN. Although few of the victims are British-registered ships, a high proportion of the crews is.

crime division of the International Chamber of Commerce, to eliminate piracy.

Representatives of the two bodies will be among a task-force summoned by the IMO to Singapore for an inquiry into piracy in February.

Meanwhile a meeting will be held in London on January 14 to discuss the enquiry's terms of reference which may include recourse to a convoy system for shipping.

David Dearsley, secretary of the ISF, said: "The murder of Captain Bashforth is particularly worrying because of the degree of violence involved.

There are two ways of tackling piracy. The first is a diplomatic initiative. Piracy has got to be tackled with the administrations at the source of the problem. That means essentially embarrassing governments where it is necessary. Indonesia is poor at policing its own waters. The other thing is to give practical advice on what to do to make it more difficult for pirates to get on board."

Meanwhile Eric Ellen, director of the IMB, spoke against the arming of crews and argued instead for sophisticated training of seamen and their officers: "It's no good turning ships into battlefields. You may have a firearm and the next thing is that the pirates come on board with bazookas. The trouble is that a seaman doesn't know how to handle the situation when someone puts a gun in his mouth and says 'I'm going to blow your head off.'

A spokesman for Numast, the merchant navy officers union, described Captain Bashforth's death as a tragedy waiting to happen and said:

"Pirate attacks in this part of the world are often carried out with absolute military precision.

Some are by ex-military and some certainly are by current naval personnel working freelance. There is a dire lack of law enforcement in this area and Captain Bashforth paid dearly for this."

and customs officers, sometimes still in uniform, who have abandoned the traditional Blackbeard cutlass for M16 rifles to launch attacks in the busy shipping lanes approaching Singapore harbour, especially in the vicinity of Bintan Island.

Royal Navy warships are on alert for piracy but cannot intervene within 12-mile territorial waters.

The government's moves coincide with a growing determination on the part of agencies such as the International Shipping Federation (ISF), which represents the employers, and the International Maritime Bureau (IMB), the specialist anti-

pirate organisation.

Mr Martin, the Sir Galahad of the distressed country house, is to acquire and restore Stoneleigh Abbey, the grandest Georgian mansion in Warwickshire. Mr Martin has restored eight such ancestral seats in the past 12 years and recently purchased another vast baroque house, Burley-on-the-Hill.

Under Mr Martin's scheme the main state rooms at Stoneleigh will be reopened to the public and the rest of the abbey, its stables and out-



Lease of life: derelict stables, part of which will be converted into houses for sale, and part let to a polo ground



## Stoneleigh Abbey finds a saviour

By MARCUS BINNEY, ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

KIT MARTIN, the Sir Galahad of the distressed country house, is to acquire and restore Stoneleigh Abbey, the grandest Georgian mansion in Warwickshire. Mr Martin has restored eight such ancestral seats in the past 12 years and recently purchased another vast baroque house, Burley-on-the-Hill.

Under Mr Martin's scheme the main state rooms at Stoneleigh will be reopened to the public and the rest of the abbey, its stables and out-

buildings will be adapted as individual houses for 35 families to live in.

Lady Leigh, whose husband's family have owned Stoneleigh since the 16th century, said: "This will breathe life back into a sleeping giant. The house was vested in a preservation trust but there simply wasn't enough money to go on opening and maintaining it."

Mr Martin said: "I have long been looking for a house where I could show that

residential conversion could go hand in hand with public access. The cost of proper endowments for the National Trust, or any trust, is now so great that alternative solutions must be found."

The baroque front of Stoneleigh is a colossus, four storeys high and 15 windows wide and was built for the Leiges in the 1720s to the designs of the master builder Francis Smith of Warwick. Smith retained much of the Elizabethan house as well as the handsome 14th century abbey gateway. When Jane Austen visited in 1806 she found "26 bedchambers in the new part of the house and a great many (some very good ones) in the old".

Furniture had to be sold to raise funds for restoration. Modern offices created in the upper floors failed to attract a single tenant in ten years. Stoneleigh was eventually forced to close its doors to the public. Recently the huge battlemented stables of Regency date have started to collapse.

Mr Martin said: "The scheme will provide sufficient funds for all necessary repairs to the abbey and estate buildings, including the wall gardens and follies. We will construct 20 new houses on the site of ugly modern barns." Part of the stables will be let to a nearby polo ground.

Lady Leigh approached Mr Martin after plans to convert the abbey into a hotel fell through. Now a hotel is to be built at a distance from the house.

The abbey's recent history has been a chapter of misfortunes. In 1960, a fire started

in the guildhall, spread through the upper floors and destroyed the roof. Although the state rooms survived relatively undamaged, restoration began only in 1982, after the establishment of a preservation trust on the late Lord Leigh's death in 1979.

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## Force seven makes for an up and down sort of Christmas

IT WAS certainly a Christmas to remember, in the middle of an ocean with the nearest people 160 miles away, and a force seven wind blowing with snow showers.

We were probably the last people to celebrate, being so close to the international date line, but not so close as to lose Christmas day altogether, which would have been a real shame, although a novel experience.

The planning began before we left Southampton. Robert having arranged some tinned chickens, a gift from William Grant & Sons of Glasgow. The atmosphere became more festive as telex messages arrived for everyone and we all booked calls home.

The radio chit-chat with the rest of the fleet was full of greetings to and from all plus the occasional card with updated words. Most topical of all were references to rigging failures and wishes for a new mast for British Steel II. The best news was that she had made a rendezvous with a ship to take on enough fuel to reach New Zealand.

We arranged our own carol service, led by Brian, who had written out the hymn sheets from memory, apart from missing out a complete line from *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing*. During this the wind piped up and a second reef was put in the mainsail, followed by a nip of sherry all round, provided by Sam.

Sam and Robert were our chefs for the day and took it in turns to prepare stuffing — two varieties, one with haggis — and croquette potatoes. My own contribution was to make

Scientist confirms pumas are roaming Britain

By JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

IF you go down to the woods today, working off your Christmas pudding, you may be in for a big surprise. Experts say that strange cat-like creatures spotted in all corners of the British Isles are almost certainly pumas and lynxes, and not the figment of an imagination that has seen one festive sherry too many.

Wildcats have been spotted over the past 12 months in places as far apart as the Peak District, Bodmin Moor in Cornwall, Merthyr Tydfil in Mid Glamorgan and Hampstead, north London. The sightings have become so common that experts are taking them seriously. Dr Paul Shuker, zoologist and author of *Mysterious Cats of the World*, said yesterday: "There is little doubt that there are quite a few British wildcats roaming the countryside."

As proof, Dr Shuker shares his West Bromwich home with a striped jungle cat that was run down in Ludlow, Shropshire, in 1989. Normally such cats are found in the Middle East and Asia. "The cat had been living in the wild, having escaped from some zoo that the authorities will not name. It is perfectly preserved," he said. Another jungle cat was run over and killed in Hampshire in 1988.

Britain has only one native wild feline, the Scottish wildcat, which is also the only protected species. The official line on sightings of other cats is almost invariably that they are misidentified dogs. Dr Shuker disagrees. "The police haven't got the opportunity to investigate fully. And the cat has all the advantages, because it knows the terrain well and is very elusive. It is only when one is killed or trapped that we can prove they exist."

According to Dr Shuker, taxidermists who have examined hairs left by the Beast of Exmoor, the cat-like animal that has killed hundreds of sheep in the West Country since 1983, have identified them as belonging to pumas or lynxes. The pattern of sightings across the moors is said to follow the paths of deer migration.

The Dangerous Wild Animals Act of 1976 put severe restrictions on the keeping of wild animals. Owners must pay a substantial annual licence to keep a wildcat. Unlicensed cats who escape from small private collections are therefore unlikely to be reported to the authorities.

Pumas and lynxes inhabit the polar regions and can easily adapt to the British climate though they should be approached with care. Despite having plenty of suitable prey at their disposal, such as deer and rabbits, they are likely to attack humans.

Celebrations had a strange but memorable feel for the crews in the British Steel Challenge round the world race. Vivien Cherry, skipper of Coopers & Lybrand, reports

the mince pies, using the half-full sherry bottle as a rolling pin and the top of a jam pot to cut the pastry. The flavour was about right, but whenever I make them they ooze juice and filling all over the oven.

We continued sailing all day, changing constantly to the most favoured tack so that, just when the galley was organised for cooking uphill, it switched to downhill. This caused a couple of cupboards to open untowardly. Flying food, mugs and dishes added another dimension to the complex obstacle course and caused a few more bruised behinds.

We made an effort to decorate the saloon with balloons, Christmas cards, a six-inch tree given to us by Coopers & Lybrand, and copious use of tinfoil.

Dinner took place in two sittings to keep enough food hot at any one time. Soup was followed by chicken and the traditional pudding, the lurching of the boat ensuring that it was doused with extra brandy to set it alight.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Tracksuit man sought over rape**

Detectives hunting the rapist of a 14-year-old girl in Co. Durham want to speak to a track-suited man. They believe that he was the last person to see the victim before she was attacked.

The girl was delivering newspapers in her village when she was attacked at 8am on December 19. Police said a reward offered for an arrest and conviction had risen to £14,000 after a donation from the car-dealer Sir Tom Cowie, who lives near the village.

Det. Chief Inspector Max Currah said: "It is imperative that I speak to a man seen in the area wearing a dark tracksuit with a peppermint-green stripe." The man is described as aged between 17 and early 20s, about 5ft 9in tall, with black or brown straight hair.

**End of line**

Leatherslade farmhouse, near Oakley, Buckinghamshire, the hide-out of the Great Train Robbers in 1963, is to be demolished. Planners have given the owner permission to build a house on the site.

**Man set on fire**

Mohammed Sadiq, 30, a used car dealer, is seriously ill in hospital after being discovered alight on Saturday evening behind his parents' home in the Almondbury area of Huddersfield. Police wish to question a man who called at the house a short time beforehand.

**Lone challenge**

Tom McNally, 49, from Liverpool, sailed past Cape St Vincent in his 34ft 4in craft to try to beat a 24-year-old record for the smallest boat to cross the Atlantic.

**Squirrel bridge**

A £50,000 bridge is to be built for a colony of red squirrels when a dual carriageway is built on the Southport-Liverpool road at Ince Blundell, cutting through a wood.

**Bond winners**

Winners of weekly premium bond draw: £100,000, number LB 920080, from Glasgow (holding of £75); £50,000, IDSP 923498, Edinburgh (£100); £25,000, 34 BN 664722, Lincoln (£3,007).

**A Community open for business means opportunity for some, redundancy for others****Europe stands at border of a year free from barriers**

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

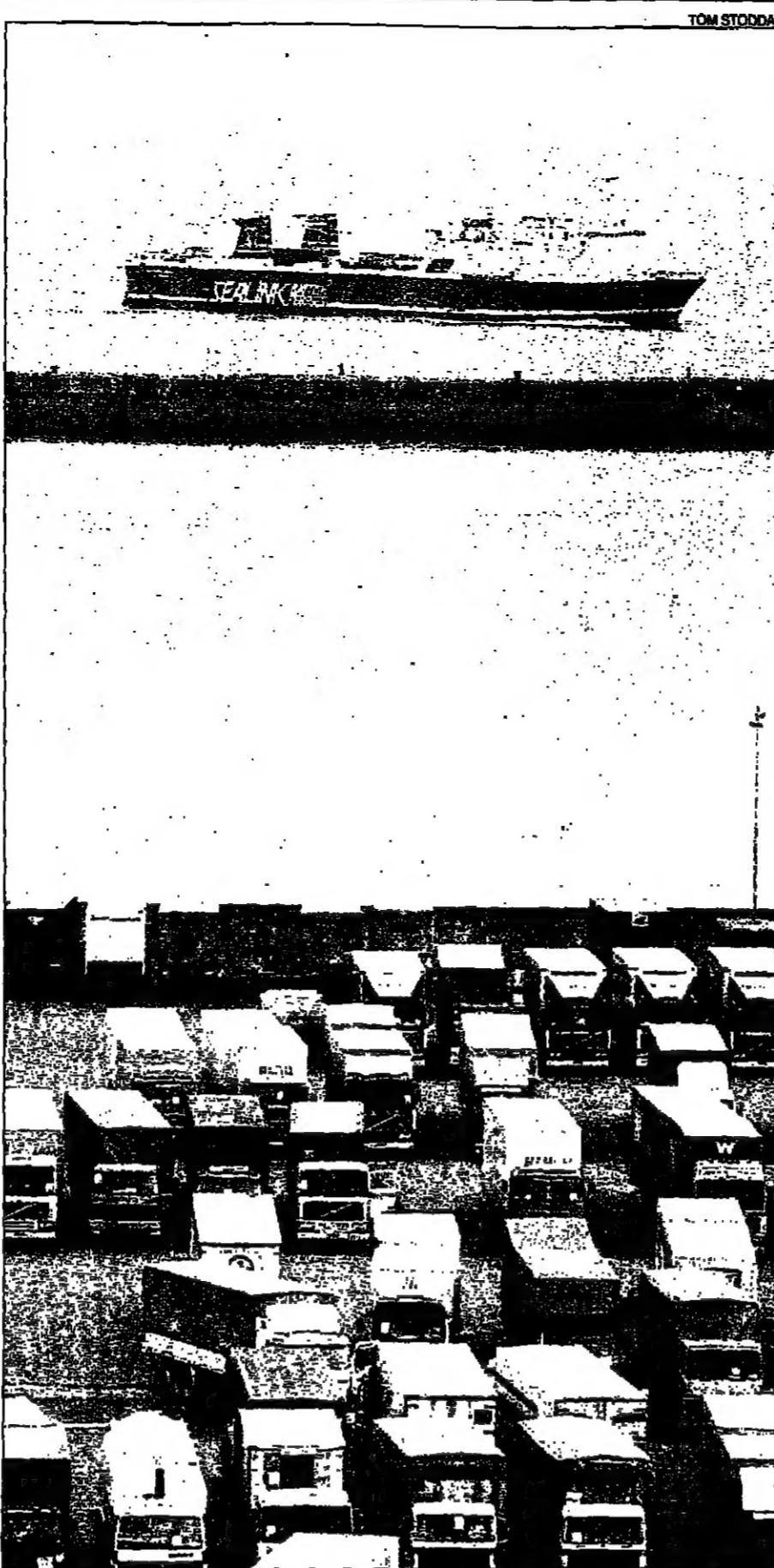
AS EUROPE'S citizens return to their offices this week, small bands of business leaders, visionaries and Eurocrats across the EC are gathering wood for fires. As the year ends, a chain of beacons across Europe will signify the end of a six-year bonfire of the boundaries.

December 31 marks the deadline of the European Community's sprawling programme to end restrictions on the free movement inside 12 states of anything from wigs to wombats. Europe, as the trade department's consciousness-raising television ads of the mid-1980s used to say, is open for business.

Up to a point. Even the most starry-eyed idealists admit that "1992" is a process, not an event, and their unfinished business to be tidied up. Many hindrances have already gone: money sloshes around Europe's financial markets as fast as the dealers can move currencies round their computer screens. We buy French, Italian and German foods and load them into Peugeots and Fias to take them back to a home morganaged by a company in Frankfurt.

Some frontiers will still stand on Friday. Few airports have been converted to borderless travel for EC passengers and Britain is locked in a dispute with its partners over whether EC citizens have to wave their passports at immigration officers. Duty-free shops survive for four more years, although their *raison d'être* vanishes on January 1.

The single market programme followed the pattern of the EC's success stories. A small handful of men and women develop a visionary plan to fulfil an original objective decades behind schedule, which at first attracts little attention anywhere.



Ready to go: lorries at Dover awaiting embarkation on ferries to the Continent

**Clowns find old and new ways to make 'em laugh**

BY KATE ALDERSON

THE traditional British circus is under siege. The first female clown to perform here made her debut this Christmas and a circus school has started to entertain party-goers with a "Techno Circus".

Steven Taylor, co-founder of the Kent Circus School, and his performing troupe regularly provide entertainment at parties all over Britain. "We are promoting the energy and vitality of the circus. We juggle, do acrobatics and pole spinning on a stage. The music and lights of the party are integrated into our show—it's becoming very popular."

Mr Taylor says the traditional circus is in decline. Gerry Cottle, whose show opened at Wembley on Christmas eve, disagrees. His circus has all the handy perennials—animals, trapeze acts, a strongman and clowns. His Christmas ticket sales are up by half on last year.

He admits the furor he caused by bringing Baby D,

bowed to pressure and stopped using animals in his shows, but ticket sales fell and they were re-introduced.

Malcolm Clay, of the Association of Circus Proprietors of Great Britain, says conventional circuses are the most successful: "Those without the traditional elements, particularly animals, are struggling. The public do like to see animals if they are happy and content, and don't like to see them do intricate tricks. The non-animal circuses are probably interesting for only half an hour."

Mr Clay agrees with Mr Cottle's views about British clowns, of which there are only about 12 full-time professionals and 400 "weekenders". He says: "There are some funny British clowns and some terrible ones. Some have no originality of thought. People want excitement from the circus, a thrill, and that's what has kept them coming back for more than 200 years."

MICHAEL POWELL

The way it isn't

CHAS BROWN



Next Year in Full Part I

**January 1:** Madonna shocks the world with a new book, *PEX*, in which she advocates kissing on the cheek. At the launch party, she appears fully clothed, passing unnoticed through the crowd.

**January 5:** Norman Tebbit condemns the Dalai Lama. "Isn't it about time this absurd little man wore something half-way decent and went out and got a proper job rather than telling us all how we should run our lives?" he says, adding: "If this is what Maastricht means, then count me out."

**January 24:** Archbishop of Canterbury seeks closer co-operation with atheists.

"We have a lot to learn from them," he insists.

"After all, it would be awfully arrogant for us to insist that God definitely existed. Pass the tambourine, there's a love."

**February 4:** a new tape of the royal family printed by *The Sun* astounds the world. It reveals them as they have never been heard before, talking to one another quite happily and apparently getting on perfectly well. A palace spokesman claims it is an obvious fake.

**February 9:** as part of John Birt's attempt to take the BBC upmarket, *Eldorado* signs up Roland Rat.

**February 18:** award-winning artist Damien Hirst draws praise from art critics for his drawing of a human face with two circles for eyes, a triangle for a nose and a curved line for a mouth. "It's his most sophisticated work yet," declares the Saatchi Gallery.

"All it needs now is

some cow innards in the corner, and it'll be ready to exhibit."

**February 27:** Tony Slattery doesn't appear on television. "I'm could be an end to TV as we know it," comments Michael Grade.

**Jobs tumble over the edge of Dover's white cliffs**

BY IAN MURRAY

FIREWORK parties and certificates to welcome what Dover Harbour Board describes as the dawn of a new era have been arranged in the town to mark the opening of Europe's internal frontiers.

The festivities will be short-lived in Britain's principal port for trade and traffic with the Continent. Mass unemployment looms as a consequence of what is happening and there are fears that without generous government aid the area will become one of the most depressed in Britain as the European Community's internal borders are abolished.

**Unemployment** in east Kent is already higher than in Scotland or Wales. "It is just a sick joke around here to talk of the prosperous South East," according to Dover Chamber of Commerce Christopher Jackson, the MEP for Kent East, was met with an almost silent reception at the chamber's Christmas dinner when he gave a speech welcoming the "new era".

Opening the frontiers means that the jobs of 1,300 customs brokers have been eliminated overnight. Already 400 customs officers have had to be given early retirement or redeployed. Another 150 lose their posts from January 1. The frontier formalities have required staff and services which have been worth £30 million a year to the local economy. Now that money is gone, traders are facing a bleak future.

The imminent completion of the Channel tunnel is adding to the gloom. At its peak, the construction site created 8,000 jobs but these are being cut. When the tunnel opens, the ferries and related companies will face inevitable cuts even though they have already shed nearly half their crews over the past three or four years.

According to the East Kent Initiative, set up 18 months ago to confront these problems "Together with the abolition of frontier controls, the

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That's show business: Dingle Fingle backstage at Gerry Cottle's Wembley circus.

# High court challenges Israeli decision to bar aid for deportees

FROM DONNA ABU-NASR IN MARJ AZ-ZAHOUR

ISRAEL'S high court gave the government 72 hours to answer a challenge to a cabinet decision barring humanitarian aid through Israeli lines to the 415 Palestinian deportees trapped in no man's land, the justice ministry said. But twice already the court has rejected legal challenges.

Israel told the United Nations yesterday that it would not back down from its decision to expel the Palestinians. Meanwhile, the men stranded in a now snow-blanketed tent city between Israel and Lebanon received smuggled supplies that eased their food shortage.

The supplies, taken on donkeys across mountain trails, coincided with the arrival in Jerusalem of a United Nations envoy trying to end the ordeal of the men expelled by Israel ten days ago. James Jonah, the UN under-secretary-general, was trying to persuade Israel to take back the deportees or allow humanitarian organisations to provide them with supplies. He met Yitzhak

Rabin, the prime minister, and Shimon Peres, the foreign minister.

Gad Ben-Ari, a spokesman for Yitzhak Rabin, said that the expulsion order was "a sovereign decision of Israel. It is a final decision and it is not up for discussion". Israel radio said that Mr Jonah would not be allowed to visit the Palestinians via Israel's self-proclaimed security zone in southern Lebanon.

It could not be determined whether Lebanon would allow him to visit the Palestinians tomorrow. He was expected to meet the Palestinian delegates to the Middle East peace talks before going to the deportees' camp.

The Palestinians spent the day melting snow gathered in large pots for drinking water, throwing snowballs, exercising to warm up and appealing for the evacuation of a seriously wounded comrade. Earlier, they said they had distributed their last food rations on Saturday and might be able to eke them out for two or three

A Lebanese army officer at the Marj az-Zahour checkpoint, three miles north of the camp, said there was no way to prevent smuggling across the chain of mountains overlooking the no man's land abutting Israel's "security zone". He said villagers passing through his checkpoint can transport supplies for their own use and the army has no reason to confiscate them. Both Lebanon and Israel have refused to let humanitarian organisations take food, water, heating fuel, medicine and other necessities to the Muslims.

The men got their last supplies from the Red Cross last Tuesday before Lebanon halted relief aid in an apparent effort to put pressure on Israel to take them back. On Friday, Mr Rabin's government rejected an appeal by the International Committee of the Red Cross to allow humanitarian aid to the deportees via Israel-controlled south Lebanon. He said aid could be brought in from Beirut. Rafik Hariri, the Lebanese prime minister, on Saturday

in Ayodhya and its sister city, Faizabad, on Saturday. The high court in Allahabad, which has jurisdiction over Ayodhya, is due to rule tomorrow whether to allow prayer ceremonies at the site. Ultimately, it will have to be a political decision.

The government may be forced to allow prayers to avoid playing into the hands of the hardline Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which was involved in the destruction of the mosque. The party is threatening to lead protest marches to Ayodhya unless prayers are permitted. The cabinet discussed Muslim demands that only a mosque should be built on the site of the old one. Clearly it had no intention of giving permission, for fear of inflaming Hindu opinion.

Moderate Hindu organisations are urging the government not to allow prayers on the disputed site. Eleven political parties and 35 grassroots organisations announced plans on Saturday for a nationwide campaign to mobilise public opinion against intercommunal fighting.

It is supported by two former prime ministers, Vishwanath Pratap Singh and Chandra Shekhar, who will address rallies across the country. The campaign will try to discredit the extremist Hindu ("Hindutva") movement as a distortion of Hinduism.

In Islamabad, the Pakistani government announced last night that it had started to rebuild hundreds of Hindu temples damaged or destroyed by Muslims. The government has also promised unspecified compensation to Hindu families whose homes and businesses were set on fire by Muslim gangs seeking revenge for destruction of the Ayodhya mosque.

The mosque's demolition created a backlash in Islamic Pakistan that badly damaged or destroyed at least 260 Hindu temples according to the government. Most of the temples are in southern Sindh province, where Pakistan's 800,000 Hindus are concentrated, or in eastern Punjab province bordering India.

The two men also agreed at their meeting to lead a peace rally through Mogadishu tomorrow. (AP)



day urged President Bush and Bill Clinton, the US president-elect, to use their influence with Israel to rescind the mass expulsion order.

Omar Farawneh, a doctor, said Amjad Zamel, a fellow exile suffering from shrapnel wounds in the jaw, was in a critical condition. "Brother Zamel's wounds are infected and he might lose his lower jaw. We plead with the UN secretary-general to help us in evacuating him to any place, be it Lebanon or Israel. He needs surgery," Dr Farawneh said.

The incident illustrated continuing security problems in Mogadishu, a city wrecked by civil war and divided since the rival warlords, General Muhammad Farrah Aidid and General Ali Mahdi Muhammad, turned their guns on each other after uniting to remove the former dictator, Mohamed Siad Barre, in January 1991. Gen Aidid controls territory in the south of the city; Gen Ali Mahdi has an enclave in the north.

A senior American official said they agreed at a meeting on Saturday to tear down the green line and stop clashes between clans in and around Mogadishu. Fighting between the two rivals has caused much of the devastation that led to severe famine in southern and central Somalia.

The two men also agreed at their meeting to lead a peace rally through Mogadishu tomorrow. (AP)



Chandra Shekhar: drive to halt religious riots

## Vietnam conquered by neon, nylon and stilettos

FROM JOANNA PITMAN  
IN HO CHI MINH CITY

THE lights are low but the suede heels and the hair-styles are fashionably high in Ho Chi Minh's Peace Ballroom. Here in Vietnam's biggest dance hall, the proud home of the country's only revolving stage, lithe young bodies sheathed in skin-tight black leather and leopard-skin prints sway on Saturday evenings to the mellifluous tenor voice of Nguyen Thanh Gian, Vietnam's answer to Cliff Richard.

Outside on the street, purple neon and twinkling fairy lights beckon passers-by and leering bouncers loiter about, teasing the teddy-boy hairdos they have built up with a

a

squirt of egg-white under the hairdryer. Rows and rows of Honda motorcycles gleam in the winking lights and occasionally a large Toyota limousine rolls up to deposit a party of women dressed in little more than negligés, and the legendary gentlemen of Vietnam's nouveau riche class, who are reputed to spend £600 or so for a night on the town.

Even if the famous revolving stage does shudder to a grinding halt once in a while, falling victim to one of the city's frequent power cuts, the Peace Ballroom is not a bad effort for an authoritarian communist-ruled country that set out on the road to free enterprise and a market-driven economy only six

years ago under the "Doi Moi" policies. Vietnam's version of perestroika.

Inside the smoke-filled dance hall, Giau has switched to a jerk and bump number and dancing girls totter in four-inch stilettos through a cloud of dry ice to the stage where they perform a synchronised routine of gyrations without noticeable enjoyment, their eyes sweeping through the audience like searchlights, on the hunt for moneyed foreign businessmen.

Thao Dung is 23 and the proud holder of the "Miss Fashion Ho Chi Minh 1992" title. She has been dancing for four years at the Peace Ballroom and earns £3 a night, a fortune compared to

her father who earns only twice that in a month of making felt pens in a small suburban factory. Ms Dung shares half her pay with her parents and three brothers and the rest, she says, "disappears on make-up and clothes". She has long grown tired of the ageing Giau's rock 'n' roll repertoire and longs to perform to New Kids on the Block, her favourite American band.

One day I'll save enough to buy a Panasonic CD player," she said as she deposited clouds of fresh powder on her cheeks and clambered into a slinky, pearl-encrusted nylon tube. Her dancing partner, Phuong Uyen, 21, has been entered by her mother for the

## Russians offer to put Pretoria in space race

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

RUSSIA is offering to put South Africa into space with intercontinental missile launchers made redundant by the Cold War's end. It was reported here yesterday.

One of South Africa's wilder dreams, at a time when the economy is in deep recession and it faces enormous challenges in repairing the ravages of apartheid, is to have its own satellite programme. According to the *Sunday Times* of Johannesburg, Russia would provide lift-off power at what is said in space terms to be a bargain price. For just over £5 million, one of its SS20 intercontinental missiles would be able to launch up to nine low-

orbit satellites. They would be sent up near Murmansk or from a launching ramp taken to South Africa and shipped back afterwards.

South Africa wants to develop a commercially viable space programme, particularly for communications, weather and geological-survey satellites. Subsidiaries of Armscor, the state arms manufacturer, are heavily involved in research.

The Russian offer was made

after talks between Dr Rudolf Gruber, Boni director of the South African Foundation, a research organisation sponsored by big business and Professor Y. Solomonov, designer of the SS22 missile.

Paris: Jacques Cousteau, the oceanographer, is the most popular person in France for the fifth year in succession, according to an annual opinion poll. Abbé Pierre, a priest who has given his life to the poor, is second. (Reuters)



Four-footed relief: a Palestinian deportee riding a donkey used by smugglers to bring supplies to the 415 Muslims at their makeshift and snow-covered tent camp in no man's land. Both Israel and Lebanon have refused to let through humanitarian aid to the men

## Delhi decides to build mosque and temple at Ayodhya

By CHRISTOPHER THOMAS AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE Indian government last night decided to buy the site of the mosque in Ayodhya, destroyed by militant Hindus, and build a mosque and a Hindu temple there.

The government will issue an ordinance this week to acquire the disputed land empowering itself to build a mosque and a temple, an official announcement issued after the cabinet had met twice during the weekend said.

"The government's aim is to ensure that the balance of both Hindu and Muslim communities is maintained," it said.

A government spokesman said the cabinet had decided to refer to the president the question of seeking the supreme court's opinion on whether there had been a Hindu temple on the site where the mosque stood. The cabinet met as hundreds of Hindu extremists began gathering in the holy city of Ayodhya to perform *punya* (prayer rituals) at the site of the demolished Babri mosque. The demolition of the mosque in Ayodhya in the state of Uttar Pradesh this month triggered a wave of sectarian violence across India in which at least 1,200 people have been killed.

At the weekend the police set up barricades to keep out the pilgrims who want to worship gods whose statues were erected in a makeshift shrine after the mosque was pulled down on December 6. According to the police, more than 3,000 Hindu zealots courted arrest

## Somali gunmen die in raid on UN

FROM FRANCES KERRY  
IN MOGADISHU

TWO Somali gunmen were killed and several others were injured during a shoot-out at a United Nations compound in north Mogadishu, a spokesman for the UN announced yesterday.

News of Saturday's attack on a compound housing UN military observers came as the city's two rival warlords agreed to dismantle the "green line" war boundary, dividing the Somali capital and to halt clan fighting in and around Mogadishu. It coincided with Washington's plans for the American-led multinational humanitarian task force in the East African country to establish a firmer presence in the north of the city and hunt down heavy weapons in both parts of Mogadishu.

The leading opposition parties a year ago missed the opportunity of combining under the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy (FORD). But FORD split along tribal lines producing FORD-Kenya, under Mr Odinga, Kenya's first vice-president, has accused the government of printing money to buy votes. FORD, along with the Democratic party and other opposition groups, has claimed that the import of Kenyan bank notes printed by the British currency manufacturers, the De La Rue, has driven up Kenya's money supply by 40 per cent over the past year and by 75 per cent in the last quarter of 1992.

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## Opposition tribal splits will help Moi keep grip on power

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

CAMPAINING in Kenya's first multiparty elections ends today amid high political tension as the country faces grave economic problems and the threat of inter-tribal warfare.

Nearly 1,000 people have died in politically motivated tribal clashes since political pluralism was announced a year ago. Thirty were killed in fighting between opposition groups and supporters of Daniel arap Moi, Kenya's president for the past 14 years, since the race for tomorrow's elections opened last month.

The leading opposition parties a year ago missed the opportunity of combining under the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy (FORD). But FORD split along tribal lines producing FORD-Kenya, led by Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, a Luo, and FORD-Asili, led by Kenneth Matiba, a Kikuyu. The other main anti-Moi force is the Democratic party under Mwai Kibaki, a Kikuyu and former vice-president responsible for creating Mr Moi's one-party state who resigned from the cabinet this year. The

tribal divisions are likely to give Mr Moi the edge in the elections. A presidential winner needs to take over 50 per cent of votes to avoid a run-off as well as 25 per cent in five of the eight Kenyan provinces.

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Foreign exchange earnings have plummeted as a result of a 40 per cent drop in tourist bookings to the former British colony which otherwise relied on exports of tea and coffee to bolster its balance of payments.

Inflation is officially running at 30 per cent and is probably nearer 40 per cent.

After bowing to international political pressure combined

with the aid donors' decision to cut balance of payments support (worth £26 million a month) and other financial support, President Moi agreed to legalise opposition parties last December. He did so after warning that political freedom would bring chaos to the East African country. This came in the middle of the year in fighting between members of his Kalenjin tribe and others in the Rift Valley, the former "White Highlands", and in the port city of Kisumu on Lake Victoria in which hundreds of people were killed and thousands made homeless when their houses were destroyed in fires.

Opposition groups accused the government of organising private armies to do its dirty work. These accusations have increased with allegations that George Saitho, the vice-president, a Masai, has been training men about 100 miles south of Nairobi, and that Nicholas Biwott, a Kalenjin, the former energy and industry minister, who Scotland Yard named as a main suspect in the killing of the foreign minister, Robert Ouko, was doing the same in his constituency of Kerio South, about 100 miles northeast of Kisumu.

"The very fact that the allegations are being bandied about means that both the opposition and the government are squaring up for what may come to violence," a senior Western diplomat said. Weapons have flooded into Kenya from the civil war in Somalia. Two years ago weapons were rare in this country — now an AK47 costs about £65 in Nairobi's back streets.

At least nine of the 188 seats have already been decided in favour of the ruling Kenya African National Union, because opposition candidates were allegedly prevented from registering, and another eight referred to the courts for arbitration after the elections. At least another 22 opposition candidates switched their allegiances to Kanu after registration. Mr Moi's opponents claim that £9,800 has been offered to opposition figures to switch allegiance, but recently withdrew a threat to boycott the elections. Commonwealth observers, led by Telford Georges of Jamaica, have voiced serious reservations about the conduct of the elections.

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## Muslim doubts fail to halt UN plans for Sarajevo evacuation

BY TIM JUDAH  
IN BELGRADE  
AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A UNITED Nations official said last night he was optimistic that 1,500 people could be evacuated from Sarajevo despite the Bosnian government's dismissal of the plan as "ethnic cleansing".

Mr Magnusson, the UN official, was due to discuss the plan, proposed by Lord Owen, the European Community peace negotiator, with Bosnian officials. It proposes that 500 people from each of the main groups — Serbs, Croats and Muslims — should be allowed to leave the besieged capital over the holidays as a good-will gesture.

However, the Muslim government of President Izetbegovic said it smacked of "ethnic cleansing" and was unacceptable. The Bosnians said they were willing to discuss a different evacuation scheme.

Baroness Chalker, overseas development minister, called on the international community at the weekend to "bring the Serbs under control," saying that otherwise nowhere in the region would be safe.

She spoke on BBC Radio 4 of the dreadful condition of detainees she had seen during her recent visit to camps in Bosnia. "Some had been starved, some had been beaten, some had, I think, worse things done to them." She had heard too much about the reported rape of Muslim women to believe that the story could have been invented.

British ministers have been increasingly outspoken in condemning Serbian actions, but Britain has taken a cautious position on the use of force

■ Lord Owen's plan is in trouble, as is Slobodan Milosevic's attempt at a coalition

and the enforcement of a "no-fly" zone over Bosnia. The recent wounding of a British officer in a Serb mortar attack on a convoy will reinforce British worries that foreign intervention could increase the risk for foreign troops helping to deliver food and medicine in Bosnia.

The Labour party issued a warning yesterday of the dangers of enforcing the "no-fly" zone over Bosnia and emphasised that British troops

should be in the firing line in any retaliation. John Reid, the shadow armed forces minister, who has just returned from a visit to Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo and Bosnia, said there was evidence of the Serbs scaling down their aggression.

Last night, Depos, Serbia's leading opposition group, rebuffed soundings from President Milosevic's Socialist party about entering a coalition government.

According to Depos leaders, the Socialists, who emerged as the biggest party in elections last week, have been shocked

## Hunt for water goes on in siege city

FROM JOEL BRAND  
IN SARAJEVO

IN A city where most daily life has come to a halt after nine months of devastating siege, people have found a new way to pass their time. They spend all day patiently collecting water, a basic necessity that in the past month has become a commodity.

Water supplies to the city stopped on December 7, a few days after electricity was cut off. Shelling had damaged the power plants supplying energy to the city's main pumping station. The United Nations says it is trying to get the power plant and other utilities repaired, but it is fighting an uphill battle.

Opposition leaders reacted with anger and puzzlement to a congratulatory telegram sent by Miljan Panic, the defeated presidential candidate, to President Milosevic. Both Mr Panic and Depos have accused Mr Milosevic of rigging the election and called for them to be annulled.

On Saturday, Mr Milosevic appeared on television to tell Serbs that he was committed to working for peace and crushing the crime wave engulfing Serbia. Armed gangs rob flats in central Belgrade and mysterious shots can be heard at night.

On the eve of the election, television equipment going to Serbia's independent station, Studio B, which said that it had received threats, was waylaid and stolen by highway robbers who had entered the country from Hungary. The UN sanctions committee had given special permission to Studio B to import the equipment so that it could compete with state-controlled television.

The retired maintenance supervisor said, however, that he had been shot at several times while fetching water and he was no longer afraid.

UK troops attacked, page 1



High jump: an Armenian fighter leaping from one rock to another during an operation against Azerbaijani positions near the town of Lachin in the mainly Armenian disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh in Azerbaijan

## Socialists resurrect Tapie for tough poll

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH  
IN PARIS

PIERRE Bérégovoy, the French prime minister, has partly revealed his 1993 election strategy by quietly re-appointing Bernard Tapie as minister for urban development. President Mitterrand signed the nomination on Saturday.

The flamboyant owner of the Marseilles football club resigned from the position in May after an opposition deputy accused him of a business swindle. Georges Tranchant, the neo-Gaullist politician who alleged M Tapie, 49, had conned him out of his share in a 13 million franc (£1.5 million) pay-off from a Japanese company, dropped his complaint last week after the two men came to an agreement.

With the French left trailing badly in the polls, and the combined right-wing parties confident of victory in March's general election, the Socialists face a stark choice. They can mount a damage-limitation exercise, trying to hold on to the party's core vote, and then lick their wounds in opposition, or they can try to form a loose alliance with the green parties and campaign aggressively against the right.

With M Tapie's appointment, M Bérégovoy seems to have plumped for the second option. The advantage of such a strategy, apart from the hope that a centre-left coalition might form a government, is that its momentum could form the base for the Socialist presidential campaign if M Mitterrand retires early.

M Tapie's campaigning style has always been aggressive and unapologetic. He is now sure to play a starring role in the election campaign.

## Siberians complain of winter heatwave

FROM ROBERT SERBY  
IN KUCHTA

While Britain shivers in a cold snap, the infurated Siberians are basking in a comparative heatwave and complaining that the winter is not "refreshing" enough.

Despite temperatures in western Siberia (the warm part) that have been hovering round -10C and were expected yesterday to plummet to -25C, the frozen wilderness stretching from the Ural mountains to the Pacific is experiencing a winter heatwave. "It was tremendous when I was young; we used to get yards of snow on the fields. Now the frost is weaker and the snow is thinner," said Pyotr Abramov, 62, an agricultural worker in Kuchta.

Meteorologists are uncertain why the change in temperature is happening, although they suspect it is caused by three things: the general warming of the planet; heavy industry in the Kuzbass and Novosibirsk regions of Siberia pouring out chemicals and pollutants; and the short-term effects of winds sweeping Siberia from the Atlantic.

The result has angered Siberians: "We had temperatures varying from -40C in the winter to 40C in the summer. Now anything below -15C is rare. The weather is not half as refreshing as it used to be," said Sergei Rundaiayev, a former KGB driver brought up in west Siberia.

Temperatures 20 years ago were on average about 5C to 10C lower than they are now. The warming may result in the Russian steppe creeping northwards at the expense of the vast tracks of dense forest that sweep across the north of Siberia.

The change in the climate and the alleged poisoning of some of Siberia's 55,000 rivers has produced apathy and hostility aimed at political leaders. "Before the war the river was clean and the fish good enough to eat. Do that now and it might kill you," Mr Abramov said.

## Bush faces demand to hand over his Iran-Contra notes

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

LAWRENCE Walsh, the special Iran-Contra prosecutor, who continued yesterday to express indignation about the Christmas eve pardoning of Caspar Weinberger, is planning to issue a subpoena to force President Bush to hand over all the private notes he made in 1986 about the illegal arms-for-hostages deal.

Sources in the special prosecutor's office confirmed that Mr Walsh may well question President Bush, probably after he has left office, about why he disclosed the existence of his typed Iran-Contra notes only 17 days ago. The special prosecutor is also likely to investigate the background to the White House's decision to grant pardons to Mr Weinberger, who was due to face trial on perjury charges in January, and five other Reagan aides.

In a newspaper interview yesterday, Mr Walsh alleged that by pardoning the former defence secretary, who had also withheld notes from the special prosecutor's office and from congressional enquiries, Mr Bush had "stopped the trial of a confederate." He said: "Whether criminal or not, it shows the ethics of the administration in a way that I could not have demonstrated." The chief prosecutor in

his initial reaction to the pardons, Mr Walsh disclosed that on December 11 his office had been told by White House lawyers of the existence of typed Bush notes concerning the Iran-Contra affair.

The special prosecutor and his staff were reviewing some notes which have been handed over when they were alerted to the president's decision to

## Accolade for president-elect

BY JAMIE DETTMER

PRESIDENT-ELECT Clinton was named as *Time* magazine's Man of the Year yesterday, and in an interview accompanying the award he said global instability was one of his main concerns as he prepares to take over the White House.

The magazine, which started the award in 1927 when the American aviator Charles Lindbergh was given the accolade, noted that Mr Clinton will assume office at a "radically unstable moment in history". *Time* said it had chosen Mr Clinton in recognition of his election campaign, which he had "conducted with dignity, with earnest attention to issues and with an impressive display of self-possession under fire".

It said his campaign "served to rehabilitate and restore the legitimacy of American politics". With the ending of the Cold war, the American had become the "most powerful man in the world". *Time*'s other reason for selecting Mr Clinton was more involved with what the president-elect could do than with what he had achieved so far, making the award an unusual one for the magazine. The election

victory had placed him in the position to "preside over one of the periodic reinventions of the country — those moments when Americans dig themselves out of their deepest problems". Several other presidents, including Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, George Bush, have won the award, as has Mikhail Gorbachev.

In his comments accepting the award, Mr Clinton said he was anxious about the state of the world. "We are seeing the flip side of the wonder of the

end of the Cold war. The bipolar world gave the US and the Soviet Union a limited capacity to contain some of what we're now seeing in Bosnia. I'm worried about Russia. It's all eminently predictable that there would be some setbacks."

He said that he hoped not to get bogged down in trying to fulfil the high expectations of American voters. On the personal front, he hoped White House life would not preclude his daughter, Chelsea, from leading a normal life.

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THURSDAY 9AM to 6PM**

# Confessions of an Oprah fan

**Alice Thomson**  
meets the chat  
show host who  
plans to put an  
end to British  
reserve

**W**hether you are a wife-beater or a beaten wife, the killer of a father or the lover of a mother, you can tell it to Oprah Winfrey on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*.

Miss Winfrey bounces around her American audience probing into everyone's problems, alternately stern of gaze or unashamedly tearful and sympathetic. A male actor in pornographic films is asked, "Don't you get sore?" In one programme on infidelity a woman confessed: "I had three men as well as my husband and I can tell you it was great." Miss Winfrey told her she had a lot of stamina.

Her punchy performance makes her the highest paid female performer in the United States. She has the highest ratings in history, owns her own television and movie studio.

"I've spent a lot of time on social security. I was once homeless for three weeks"



Chrystal gazing: if her show takes off, Ms Rose wants to have a studio of her own. "I'd also like to do a play on the West End. Then I'd like to write a book."

dio, and she has helped to draft child protection legislation for Congress.

But now Miss Winfrey has a competitor on this side of the Atlantic. Step forward Chrystal Rose, "Britain's answer to Oprah Winfrey". *The Chrystal Rose Show* starts on Carlton Television on January 6, one of a line-up intended to show that Carlton is a worthy successor to Thames Television.

"I know people are saying I am the next Oprah Winfrey but I am not trying to copy her personality or anything. All I am copying is the format of using a panel and an audience and a roving camera," Ms Rose says.

We are sitting in Carlton's squeaky-clean offices in St Martin's Lane, central London. Ms Rose is wearing a glamorous black and white check suit, lashings of pink and blue eye make-up and white nail varnish. And she is thin. She looks exactly what she used to be, an aspiring model and actress — and she is slightly nervous.

Ms Rose has been to America to find out what Miss Winfrey's secret is and has come back with a photograph

of the two of them laughing together. "Oprah is lovely. She is a mega-superstar but she gave us nearly half an hour, and said what to do and what not to do and talked all about her personal life. I would like to be as open as her," she says.

Unlike her mentor, Ms Rose is not a huggy, touchy person, nor does she have the uncanny grasp of populist psychobabble, motherly warmth and no-nonsense attitude which makes Miss Winfrey brilliant at her job. In a pilot for *The Chrystal Rose Show*, the host appears aloof and stilted.

Indeed Ms Rose seems too brittle to make a natural earth mother or sob sister. The show might be successful on its format alone but her talents may well lie elsewhere. She has qualities that Miss Winfrey lacks. She is more polished, less superficial, and her opinion of celebrities is more critical.

Why did she decide to do it? "I came in one day from netball in 1989 and Oprah was on TV. I saw this black woman and thought this is fantastic — a multi-cultural show with a black woman. I thought, this is exactly what I

would like to do. I hired a crew for £50 and invited along people and asked them about tipping in Britain. Then I sent it to *Open Air* on the BBC."

The BBC asked her to interview Des O'Connor and her television career began. "I got bits and pieces which I combined with a modelling agency and a PR company but I was not doing what I wanted," she says. "So I begged my bank manager for £18,000 and planned a series of Oprah-type shows — on being single in London, domestic violence, boxing, divorce and infidelity." Her bank manager was not impressed but television companies were and she was commissioned by Carlton.

Chrystal Rose is an interpretation of her African name. Ms Rose was born in Lagos, Nigeria, and went to west London as a baby. Her mother returned to Nigeria when Ms Rose was a teenager and she has not seen her father since he went back in 1980. This Christmas they are all meeting at her house with her two sisters and brother.

Miss Winfrey has astounded viewers with confessions that she was sexually abused by her cousin when she was nine (and several times thereafter by three other members of her family), was flogged by her grandmother and went to a juvenile detention centre at 13. She discusses her weight problems, adolescent promiscuity and her boy friend in unfinchingly honest detail.

that she never stop," Ms Rose says.

"The British are great talkers when they believe passionately in their subject matter. I hope to make the British more open and frank. We must stop hiding our problems. It's why we are such a depressed nation.

"We did one pilot on battered wives. The man admitted that he beat his wife and, with the help of the audience and I, started questioning himself and realised he was a coward. I want my show to be the start of a new trend in British chat shows where people are willing to share experiences and don't see being poor and homeless as a negative thing."

Ms Rose has not yet thought of any favourite causes but she feels very sympathetic towards single parents and wants them to see that you can succeed on your own. "I don't want to go on political stand. Mine is a human relationships show about weight gain, plastic surgery and infidelity. We'll leave Maastricht and Somalia to *Panorama*."

The American programme attracts guests as diverse as Barbara Bush, Joan Collins, assorted crazies and kooks, the sad, the lonely and the triumphant. Unlike the Americans, the British are notoriously bad at confessing, especially to any sexual or emotional feelings. "In America everyone wants to be famous, so when they have a chance to be in front of the

camera they never stop," Ms Rose says.

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Bigots, racists and sadomasochists will be among the few people not invited to share their experiences with Ms Rose and her audience.

Carlton says it is not interested in ratings. But if the show is very successful Ms Rose would like a studio of her own. "I came third in a Channel 4 screenplay writing competition. I'd like to do a play and produce it in the West End. Then I'd like to write a book."

# A Dickens of a character



LIBBY PURVES

ing-in-the-lost-lobster-sucktails school of housekeeping.

What she expressed was the odd pleasure of grafting away cheerfully in the wrong job. She graphically rendered the exhaustion of servitude, and how it is when you can't think of getting out because your horizon is bounded by the next trip to the transport café for sausages and bacon after a night shift. Yet at the same time she confirmed that even the lowliest employee has a right to laugh at her employers whether pompous ward sisters or effete bachelor households.

She had serious observations about nursing, about domestic servants and the angry unease of that 1930s' generation which saw them slipping away forever; but she expressed it all lightly, as part of life's weird pattern.

**M**onica Dickens kept me going through those teen and student years when — lacking, like her, the keen drive to find cavern-building, network-forming jobs as some of my fellows did — I spent months behind bar counters, waitressing, minding dead-end libraries or copying out figures in a telex record book.

Her spirit was with me through night shifts as a despised, solidified, novice tape-editor in the Bush House newsroom: I wished she could have chronicled some of the night editions there. Nervous of them as I was, trained by her merciless eye I found myself appreciative of such sights as a row of grey-cardiganed hulks sucking at paper mugs of soup in front of the women's gymnastics at 3am during the 1972 Olympics ("They must have such powerful thighs to be able to do that").

Monica Dickens' genius — never bettered in those two books — was to express how it is to be tired, down-trodden and not particularly competent, and still to find life — observed from underneath — a riot. For that alone, drink to her.

A Scottish ruling has once more aroused fears that the legal system is soft on sexual offenders

**W**hen a man posing as a Catholic priest brutally sexually assaulted a woman in Edinburgh she was not only the victim of a particularly vicious crime. She also became the victim, in the eyes of many, of a male-dominated legal system which seems to show excessive leniency towards men who commit violent crimes against women.

The case of Irene MacDonald (her name has been changed to protect her identity) has become a cause célèbre in Scotland. What has particularly shocked the public is that the initial life sentence on Mrs MacDonald's attacker was, three weeks ago, reduced on appeal to six years.

Mrs MacDonald, 37, is the chairman of her local Conservative association and the mother of four children. The attack happened in her home, one lunchtime last May, and was so meticulously planned that no one would have had their suspicions aroused. John Cronin, 21, had already passed himself off as "Father Sean Mulligan" and celebrated mass at St Mary's Cathedral in Broughton Street.

Weeks before the assault, he stopped two young Conservatives delivering leaflets for local elections and told them he wanted to donate money to the party. So when he telephoned Mrs MacDonald she did what most fund-raisers would do in the circumstances: she invited him for coffee.

At her large, detached house, Mrs McDonald recounts the details of her ordeal in a matter-of-fact way. "I felt safe because he was a priest and he seemed knowledgeable about local party politics," she says. "He knew which wards we should be targeting, and which were Labour strongholds, and he wanted to open an account to pay for a newsletter. Even when he jumped on me, I was not so very frightened. He had told me he had been seeing Vatican officials and had been asked to investigate the case of Bishop Casey [who resigned earlier this year after admitting fathering a child]. So when Cronin tried to kiss me, my first thought was 'bloody hell, these Catholic priests are all the same. They all want sex'."

"I pushed him off and ran as far as the door when he thumped me with his clenched fist across my face. He broke a

# When the law fails a woman



Danger man: John Cronin

in one day and completely went against what the original judge had said; that this man is a danger to the public."

The trial judge in Edinburgh, Lord McCluskey, took three weeks to come to his decision to pass a life sentence on Cronin, who pleaded guilty to a number of charges, the most serious of which were indecent assault and robbery.

Cronin could not be charged with rape because vaginal penetration had not taken place. Lord McCluskey said that he was imposing the sentence because, however long Cronin served, when he came out, "life" meant he would always be under licence so the parole board would have some control over him.

Giving judgment, Lord McCluskey said: "There is no other way in which a responsible decision can be taken because the conduct of the appellant over the years, culminating in the disgusting and dangerous attack on Mrs MacDonald, showed that Cronin posed a serious threat to public safety and this threat might endure indefinitely."

Now, after he has served his sentence, Cronin, who was reported to have smiled and waved to the public benches as he left the dock after the appeal court decision, will be free and there will be no subsequent check on his movements.

Mrs MacDonald's husband, father-in-law and Margaret McGregor, a Labour councillor, have all written to leading Scottish lawyers protesting about the reduced sentence. Yet according to the Right Hon David Hope, the

Lord Justice General for Scotland, the decision is final.

Mrs MacDonald says that she is disappointed with the lack of support that has been shown to her by the Conservative party. In contrast, the Labour-controlled council's women's unit is leading a campaign against violence against women and children, which was launched in the city earlier this month.

The aim of the campaign, according to Evelyn Gillen, one of the unit's officers, is to change attitudes and make violence against women more socially unacceptable. "We believe this is the first campaign of its kind in the UK," Ms Gillen says. "It is the result of a survey we did among young boys who said they expected to use violence at some time in a relationship. They also said violence is more acceptable when a man is married to the victim. These findings are shocking."

The unit has devised a publicity and information campaign lasting six months.

"Responsibility for their own safety has always been placed on women, and they are advised not to stay out late or preferably not go out at all, and so on," Ms Gillen says. "We need to target men as part of a strategy to make people more aware that violence against women is a criminal offence. They have done this successfully in Canada, spending millions of dollars on television ads."

The spearhead of the Edinburgh campaign is a series of posters going up on 40 billboards throughout the city. A thousand more will be distributed in public houses. The first poster, concerning child abuse, has been on display over Christmas and will be replaced on January 11 with one illustrating domestic violence, then another depicting rape and sexual abuse will appear for four weeks and finally a poster combining all three subjects will be distributed.

The poster designs are being kept secret so as not to detract from their shock value. It is unlikely they will show photographs of any judges, although the campaign leaders — and Mrs MacDonald — hope that Scotland's legal authorities will get the message.

HEATHER KIRBY

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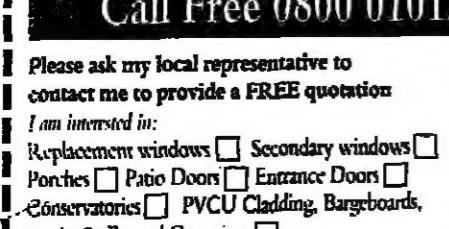
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# Face to face with '93

**A**s we reach the end of 1992, looking back seems the done thing. It is a time to try to make some sense of things. Just why were Madonna's bosoms hot this year? What made the glamorous glut of supermodels shave off their (previous) much-loved eyebrows, and who said it was okay to grow your hair and just wash it and go? Well, logically speaking, that's what we should be doing, but when it comes to the world of fashion there is little room for logic. This is a world where time has little meaning, and no one ever looks back — except for inspiration.

Having already dictated the fashions — the clothes, accessories, hairstyles and make-up which will be worn (or, at least, will inspire those worn) until the end of the summer of 1993, designers the world over are already thinking about what will follow for the winter of 1993/94. So instead of a painful post-mortem of 1992, influential image-makers have been rounded up and asked for their predictions for the new year. How will we look in 1993 and, more importantly, who will we look like?

Until the 1950s fashion was



Ahead of style: Sinead O'Connor

shaped by movie stars and beauties. The 1950s had its stars of the screen, too, but for the first time models achieved star status in their own right — Fiona Campbell-Walter, Bronwen Pugh and Barbara Goalen were the first super-models.

This new celebrity catapulted the faces which emerged in the 1960s into the gossip columns, on the arms of the eligible bachelors of the pop generation. Young, image-conscious girls from every kind of background who no longer fitted a social stereotype — Jean Shrimpton, Twiggy, Patti Boyd, Veruschka, and Penelope Tree were envied, and copied by teenage girls the world over.

The trend continued into the 1970s, with a crop of girls who broke all the rules. Their faces no longer fitted an Identikit "model" look. Lauren Hutton had a gappy smile, yet earned \$200,000 a year in America as the face of Charles Revson's Ultima beauty range; Marisa Berenson was a jet-setting heiress; Jerry Hall was a leggy six footer from Texas; Marie Helvin, a Hawaiian beauty, stole the heart of the photographer David Bailey; Pat Cleveland was simply an actress on the catwalk.

Of course, nobody could have imagined the heights to which models would soar, but the 1980s gave us girls who appeared on the front pages of newspapers for doing nothing more than arriving at airports (something previously the province of film stars), and became quotable. "We don't get up for less than ten thousand dollars a day," being the most lavish of the bunch. The faces of Cindy Crawford, Christy Turlington, Naomi Campbell, Tatjana Patitz and, of course, Linda Evangelista still grace the covers of magazines. They still walk miles on the international runways of the chicest designers. But, the shifting sands of style tell us that it's time for something new. The business that depends on change to survive needs new blood to keep it pumping, and a new look demands new faces.

**MICHAEL ROBERTS:** *Fashion photographer, painter, and contributor to numerous international fashion journals*

"By next autumn everyone will want to look like Sinead O'Connor. They will all shave their hair off, for a very Buddhist look. Wigmakers will be able to pick up a lot of hair to make pieces with. It will be very mystical, lots of ethnic, and references to Eastern religions. This harks back to Julie Driscoll. Fashion editors will be trekking off to the



**Fashion**  
IAIN R.  
WEBB

Himalayas to do shoots. Fashion copy will become very heavy and pretentious, with people seeking to find inner meaning in Next. The make-up will be all about soulful eyes — the mirrors of the soul. A 'no make-up make-up' look, with lots of washed-out saffron and pink. I love that look. I could do it right now. Hair will come off the women and be stuck onto men. The major model for next year is David Bowles. All that long blond hair."

**NICHOLAS KNIGHTLY:** *New, hot young designer whose first collection after graduating from Ravensbourne College of Art was snapped up by Harvey Nichols and sold out*

"For me, Tizer Bailey is the face of 1993. She has a magical aura. Her natural beauty is strengthened by the actress in her: she is relaxed, calm and open. I'm tired of these cartoon-strip stereotypes that people call super-models — fashion is starting to react against these idealistic images, a reaction against the theatrical and unobtainable, a move towards the natural — a more honest approach. Time to relax. Tizer is perfect."

**KARL LAGERFELD:** *Designer for Chanel, Chloe, Fendi, and own label; photographer, illustrator*

"A season not shaped by one thing. The mix gives the mood. Kate Moss is certainly the new super-model. The other ones have to adapt; they are still stars but they have to move with fashion and times. They are still the best. But we are in the 1990s now. I think Kristen McMenamy is the new woman. In a different way from Kate Moss, but as strong. She is 'fashion' in a modern, more intellectual approach. She is the new 'versatile' face of fashion with no references to the past. Kate Moss fits easily with the post-hippiesque pattern. People think those days were the last easy, carefree times. For the first time people who had known a fashion want that mood back for themselves. Women of 40 are ready for grunge. Dangerous... but that's fashion. Glamour in the mood of



Rising stars (above, left to right) Kate Moss, already a super-model, the versatile Kristen McMenamy and Cecilia Chancellor, not brand new, but individual

eyes, teeth. Who knows, maybe even the return of the smile? The girl? Sort of Jean Shrimpton meets Farrah via Catherine Deneuve. Her name? Who knows, but she's out there, somewhere..."

**ANNA COCKBURN:** *Fashion editor, Elle magazine*

"The changing look of models next year will occur because there has been a long-overdue shift of emphasis in fashion photography, the best of which in 1993 will be a product of the photographers who can enhance the beauty of models without masking their individual style and personality. It is the perspective of the photographers and fashion editors which is changing, rather than the models themselves. Prominent faces next year will be Cecilia Chancellor, Emma Balfour, Amber Valetta, Rosemary Ferguson, none of whom are brand new to modelling, but will be in demand in 1993 because each possesses 'beauty', strengthened by their own distinct individuality."

**ALEXANDRA SHULMAN:** *Editor, Vogue magazine*

"1993 will see the end of the brassy 1980s, big shoulders and all that is over. One can feel that we are now in the 1990s. The world, the mentalities and everything changed or is changing. It's a need.

"Photographers will also help a lot of the new faces come through. Steven Meisel is very good for that. As strong as Kate Moss and Kristen are, a flat and 'not fashion' is the nice face of Lucie de la Falaise. She is pushing, too. Strong, not classic beauties like Sofia Coppola have a chance. Personality is needed. Glamour has to be reinvented and, for that, new faces are needed."

**KATHRYN FLETT:** *Editor, Arena magazine*

"No more grunge. Please! The Seventies look will shift, inevitably, from waifs and strays in hand-me-downs to full-blooded 1970s chic chick. Think Parrah, think *la coupe sauvage*, think real suntans rather than nightclub pallor. Kate Moss — a Biba girl for the 1990s — will continue her rise but, as recession turns to depression, we'll need some good old-fashioned glamour to keep us going. Think those 1970s *Virginia Slims* ads, those Revlon/Charley girls... you've come a long way baby. Heels, hair,

right and are a highly individual band of women, always capable of change. They have been a wonderful inspiration to everyone over the past four or five years, and will continue to be so. The current recession is forcing people to reassess their values, the new feelings are those of reality and earthiness. Rifat Ozbel predicted this change as long ago as 1986. With his white, New Age collection he heralded the shift toward peace, tranquillity and nirvana. Karl Lagerfeld, the man who originally gave women the ultimate status symbol — the quilted (and gilded) handbag — has now thrown glamour out of the window and given women back the freedom and confidence they lost during the power-crazy years of the late 1980s. Women are being born again; femininity is a stronger more positive celebration of being a woman; a brilliant, magical time."

**SARAH DOUKAS:** *Owner of Storm model agency, and the woman responsible for discovering Kate Moss*

"The nouveau hippiesque look that was achieved in a lot of the pictures of Kate Moss in 1992 reflects, perhaps, a more human and

A new simplicity and a trend towards few decorations find their roots in today's life, in the rush and modern life we all live. Since it is a new phase the new look is represented by new faces, by models who are different from the top models we usually see in fashion shows. The new face is a dreaming, not an aggressive, one. I think the top models like Christy Turlington, Naomi Campbell or Claudia Schiffer will survive and, of course, will have success for a long time — but they won't be alone."

**TINA GAUDIOT:** *Health and beauty editor, Harper's Bazaar magazine, New York*

"1993 will be the year of the gawky not the glamorous. And it is not going to be just about one face — there's a multitude of new, young girls skyrocketing through the *ingénue* modelling ranks who we will be seeing more of in the next year. While Kate Moss was definitely the catalyst for the new wave of smaller, paler-skinned, finer-boned, gamine models, she is by no means

on her own.

"Others to watch out for include

Emma Balfour, Laura Roundell,

Jazmine, Simone, Patricia Hartman,

Jenny Brunt, Kate Dillon, Amber Valetta and Lindsey Parker.

What's also going to be interesting and unusual in 1993 is watching 'the come-backs' — girls who we'll all have seen before but, because their face and body fit the new look, will undergo a revival. Cecilia Chancellor and Lucie de la Falaise are excellent examples, as is Kristen McMenamy. These new girls will positively redefine what we think of as beautiful. For most of them their success is in projecting their personalities as well as their faces.

"In 1993 it's going to be okay to

be shorter than 6ft, to have breasts

that measure in at less than a 36C,

and it's also going to be chic to have

unsymmetrical features and to be

described as 'interesting' rather

than flawlessly beautiful. With

these girls, make-up also takes a

new direction. The way they photo-

graph best is with 'no make-up'

make-up, that doesn't mean they're

not wearing any, it just means that

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hours to make them look as if they

aren't. Hair will also take the

direction of simplicity and softness.

Expect wash and wear cuts,

fringeing, wisping and lots of

centre partings. It's the accessibility

of the faces of 1993 that will make

them so endearing. Women are

going to be able to identify far more

easily with this new batch of girls,

who will be far less alienating than

the super-models of the past six

years. Even more positive is that, so

far, none of them show any signs of

interest in ascending to the heights

of heady, super-model status. We

are about to enter an age when

modelling will once more be looked

on as just another job."

**GIANNI VERSACE:** *Designer, Milan*

"There is obviously a radical

change in women's fashion. Silhouettes, colours, shapes have sud-

denly changed and it seems there is

no time to adjust the existing style.



Pale simplicity, powerful personality: Amber Valetta (left) and Lucie de la Falaise



Magical aura: Tizer Bailey



cycle, remember we hadn't seen glamour for years, so this is just another backlash."

**MARIE HELVIN:** *One of the faces of the 1970s, now designing her own range of stretch fashions*

"People are talking about the 1970s revival, but it's really the late 1960s which are being reworked. I came into modelling at the end of that period. I remember my first job with the photographer Barry Laneigan. The make-up artist was sick and he said to me and the three other girls, 'I want you to look like flowers'. I thought, 'What?', but the other girls understood and did my face — all yellow, purple and green eye make-up. That was the time of Giorgio Sant'Angelo, vibrant colours, wild make-up — Penelope Tree, and Marisa Berenson. The designer fashion in the 1970s wasn't really fun or funky, it was straight and boring, which is why photographers like Bailey made up little stories, because the clothes were so dull. Personally I hate nostalgia, it plays safe. Whatever designers do, everyone still wears jeans, or leathers, all those classic things. It's weird to wear designer things now, it's almost vulgar to be done up in all those labels. But it's a

unique thing. Whatever happens the look will become a lot more individual. Kate will be Kate, etc, etc. It doesn't matter if Kate and Lucie are tiny. It's the same with hair. If a girl on a job has a certain look, you have to adapt that and make something of it, you can't just stamp a new look on her. It's the same for designers. Designers are again making clothes which Cecilia wore in 1983. I hate that word grunge, they are clothes we've been wearing for years. Whatever designers do, everyone still wears jeans, or leathers, all those classic things. It's weird to wear designer things now, it's almost vulgar to be done up in all those labels. But it's a

great



sensitive approach to fashion.

However, there is far more substance to both the look of the 1990s and Kate Moss than just a teenage hippy-type image. For instance, Kate has just appeared on the US *Harper's Bazaar* cover, where we find our laid-back teenage girl transformed into a woman of dignity and elegance. Essentially, she is an image of style and refinement but still with more sensitivity than the harsh, brash look of the 1980s. So perhaps the key for the look for 1993 will be this versatility and the ability to change from casual to sophisticated. Expect to see a lot more of Kate in 1993."

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**Matthew  
Parris**

■ The eighth wonder of the world is 12,000 feet up in the Bolivian Andes

It's snowing in Britain? It is here. This is my first Christmas eve spent at an abandoned sulphur mine 17,000ft high in a remote corner of southern Bolivia. We are looking for a piece of scrap steel which might hang the offside front springs of a clapped-out Land Rover back onto the chassis from which they came adrift when we hit a lump of lava on the track.

But I don't care. I am not in the least worried. I only feel exhilarated, for I have just discovered my eighth wonder of the world.

In an era where there seems so little left to explore I never thought to reach middle age without knowing about this. Like stout Cortés, only slimmer, I have gazed upon a hidden world.

You know of the pyramids, you have read about the hanging gardens of Babylon, you have visited the Parthenon and the Niagara Falls. But have you heard of the Salar de Uyuni? Few have. Still fewer have come here. I should never have done so myself if I had not read Henry Shukman's account in his book *Sons of the Moon*. Shukman sounded wonder-struck, as he was only 18 when he wrote and (I thought) perhaps prone to adolescent exaggeration. I decided to see the Salar for myself. Now I have done so. Shukman understates.

The question why this marvel in the Bolivian Andes is not better known is answered, no doubt, by the inconvenience of getting here. I must write about BR — Bolivian Railways — in detail and limit myself, now, to one short message of comfort for Essex commuters who venture into Fenchurch Street: it could be worse. It could be much, much worse. Infinitely worse. Getting to Uyuni, from Antofagasta in Chile, was hell, but we did.

Uyuni is a town at the edge of my eighth wonder. The hotel is fine. Its bed bugs do not bother you and flushing the loo with a bucket from an old drum of water is your preferred toilet routine. Uyuni is a dump: a wiry, friendly, colourful dump: a big Indian market, really, fanning out through dusty streets lined with tin-roofed shacks. The altitude is about 12,000ft.

The town lies by the Salar. The Salar de Uyuni is a 3,000-square-mile salt pan: 10 billion tons of salt ringed by volcanoes, snow-capped and smoking; and surrounded by underground springs, tens of thousands of flamingoes, and wildlife of the rarest sort. The whole strange, secret world is suspended high above the great plain of the Chilean Atacama which stretches beneath us to the Pacific shore.

The Salar, and the magnificent waste of lakes and mountains which guard it, is in fact a desert. The deserts of South America are quite full and very intense, far more beautiful than those of Africa, Arabia or Australia. They are full of incident: bright, sharp colours, yellows, reds and browns, children's picture-book volcanoes soaring into clear blue skies, silhouetted mountain-scarps and ice peaks, cactuses and weird rocks scattered about, geysers spouting, hot springs steaming, sulphur tipping from the mountain-side, lava-flows which seem to have hardened only yesterday. If a pterodactyl were to swoop round the nearest smoking cone, it would hardly seem out of place.

And there are beautiful lagoons, of which the Salara de Uyuni was once one. It is about 60 miles across. Scattered around it are smaller salars, all of them once part of a great inland sea. Now only the salt remains.

This you will not believe until you see it. It is a vast unbroken crust, blinding white, the size of two English counties, pancake-flat, pure salt crystal. It stretches like the top of a gigantic Christmas cake as far as the eye can see. Punched through it, you glimpse the shallow saline lake beneath, rising and falling with the seasons, the oily water sometimes a few inches above the crust, usually (as now) hidden beneath the hard, baked surface.

**O**n this you can drive, if you take care. We drove for half an hour at 60mph into the middle. From here you can see nothing but salt stretching to the horizon, where hang the low black silhouettes of encircling hills. These hills seem to float, if you can imagine it, in a distant narrow band around you, suspended between an upper hemisphere of blue-white and a lower hemisphere of sheer white. Someone has compared it to the perspective of an ant crawling across an infinite mirror. It is entirely Dali-esque.

The salt crunches underfoot if you move. Otherwise there is absolutely no sound, absolutely no life, only the singing in your head which grows strangely loud. In the middle of the salar is an "island". It literally is an island, for its rocky shores rise, almost black by contrast, straight out of the salt. Nothing lives there but rock-rabbits and cactuses — thousands of spiky 20ft green poles, the girth of a man, sprouting flowers. The scene is dreamlike surreal.

From the salar we drove towards the Chilean border past the active Ollagüe volcano and five lagoons, their paintbox colours orchestrated by their resident algae. Flamingoes were everywhere and in the valleys vicuña (an endangered species, deer-like prototypes for the domesticated llama) ran. By the shores of the huge Laguna Colorada, its waters salmon-pink, we slept on the floors of the mud huts of the tiny Indian settlement. Our mattresses were Chilean fishmeal sacks, stuffed with straw.

Limping now, our vehicle's front axle crabwise to the chassis, we made for a sulphur mine called Susana, passing two cold and lonely Bolivian soldiers at a half-ruined camp. Great yellow lumps of sulphur dropped by the lorries which truck minerals to the Chilean border lay all around.

And it began to snow. Which is where you came in, I suppose, to this account sketched out while the hunt for a steel rod continued. If you are reading this then presumably we did manage to effect the repair and did survive the return journey over that snow-laden ridge ahead with our Indian driver, who is mad, drunk and dribbling green purple of coca leaf, a habit to which some of us have succumbed.

This will sound rather breathless. I suppose a bit like an unpaid advertisement for the Bolivian tourist board. But I am breathless: breathless with the altitude, and breathless with the beauty.

## The House of Commons is not the nest of villainy many like to pretend, writes Peter Riddell

# In praise of politicians

RIDDELL  
ON MONDAY

To write in defence of politicians might seem to be taking seasonal generosity to extremes. The Christmas spirit is all very well, but... Most agree with the view in *King Lear* "Get thee glass eyes; and, like a scurvy politician, seem to see the things thou dost not."

The old adage about politicians being as unpopular as estate agents turns out to be true. A Mori poll in early October asked people whether various groups worked very hard, or not very hard, or not at all hard. Top of the list, rated as very hard working by nine in ten, were nurses followed by doctors, policemen, teachers and postmen. Even company directors were ahead of MPs, seen as very hard working by just 12 per cent, while 43 per cent thought they did not work very hard or at all hard. Their only consolation is that just 7 per cent reckoned that members of the European parliament worked very hard and only 6 per cent thought estate agents did. That is tough on estate agents, given what they have to do to sell a house in the present state of the market.

The past 12 months have not been kind to politicians as a

species. In Italy, several well-known leaders face charges of corruption. In America, many members of Congress failed to be re-elected after alleged abuse of perks, while Ross Perot won nearly a fifth of the votes in November on an anti-politics message. In Britain, our scandals are more limited and more prurient. The greatest excitement is generated by matters which are either entirely personal or where there is no evidence of wrongdoing — Paddy Ashdown's affair with his former secretary, the downfall of David Mellor and the payment of the Chancellor's legal fees. These have generated far more heat in the tabloids than either Black Wednesday or ministerial devotions over arms sales to Iraq. Hero worshipping politicians is unhealthy. That is the route to the tawdry illusions of Camelot on the Potomac of the Kennedy era and subsequent bitter disappointments. And heroes come to believe the worship and become authoritarian. The British system may be brutal in its

means of dismissal; just ask Chris Patten, Francis Maude, John Maples and half a dozen others who lost both their seats in the Commons and their ministerial offices last April, while they watched their friends stay in office. But the suddenness of defeat underlines that MPs are ultimately at the disposal of the electorate.

But we should not be too dismissive of MPs. Their views are less venal and more public than those of many other groups. The pure artist or writer bemoaning the impure politician is often a humbug, eagerly after the next cheque and feeding with his or her fellow artists and writers. The difference is that MPs' faults come under the public spotlight.

The motives of politicians are as mixed as the rest of us. They are not the selfless servants of

the people they may pretend, but nor are they just out for themselves. As good a definition as any was Richard Crossman's in 1958. "A tradition of public service; then a dash of vanity and another of self-importance and, added to these, a streak of rebelliousness, a pleasure in good talk for its own sake and in gregarious living. These, much more than the desire for personal power, are the qualities of the individual member."

Money itself plays little part. Most current MPs of whatever party, let alone ministers, earn less than they would outside the Commons. The real vice of politicians is vanity. They take themselves too seriously. But that is a harmless enough sin, easily corrected by the way that most MPs are ignored.

Even to talk of politicians generally is a mistake. The days may be long past when Harold Macmillan could claim that many Tory MPs, perhaps the majority, had no desire at all for political advancement and few sought office. And the roman-

tics may deplore the disappearance of the independent member (always much exaggerated) and the rise of the full-time career politician, the former special adviser or councillor eagerly seeking from the time of election a post on one or other of the front benches.

The Commons remains, however, far from homogeneous. Behind the grey suits, there is still diversity. For every Michael Portillo or Gordon Brown rising rapidly to the top, there is a Tam Dalyell, Frank Field, Robert Adley or Nicholas Badger prepared to challenge received opinions. Wide differences in regional interests and accents continue. The Commons has its fair share of charlatans, crooks, phonies (generally found out very quickly), and bores (above the national average). But even the most pompous MP often has something interesting to say about some subject.

Ambition obviously plays a part in at least the early stages of most politicians' careers. Fame is still the spur. The glittering

## Last writ for the libel liars

Bernard Levin welcomes the proposals that will withdraw a legal licence to print money

I don't know why everybody looked at me when Lord Mackay announced that there was to be a reconstruction of the libel laws; true, I have worn out a couple of dozen newspaper legal advisers, and indeed whitened the hair of a good few editors, but m'fud yes, I know they don't say m'fud any more, and indeed I know who was the last lawyer to use that charming abbreviation: it was the late Sir Valentine Holmes (he has not had the pleasure of my company in the witness box for 23 years. There was a moment, a few weeks ago, when it seemed that I might be appearing not in the witness box but in the dock — a little manner of contempt of court — but it blew over, *absit omen*.)

The present libel law, or more exactly the use of it, has become a monstrous scandal, for several reasons. First, hardly a week passes without some con man demanding gigantic sums from a newspaper editor because the organ has ruined his business, his friendships and his character, none of which exists. The editors cough up sums rarely less than five figures and more often six, in the knowledge that if the con man went to court, he would be awarded even more (plus costs) from presumably deranged juries.

I do not believe that more than a tenth of the libel plaintiffs the courts deal with have any justification whatever, and most of the tenth could and should have been settled over a cup of tea with a mild apology and a handshake. Moreover, the British libel laws (and usages) are so grotesquely perverted that thimble-fingerers from all over the world have been finding or inventing a conception, however obviously fraudulent, with a case in Britain, in the hope — a hope very rarely dashed — of dancing out of the court with a fortune, plus costs.

So what is to be done? Well, Lord Mackay has drawn up a schedule of changes that, given a chance, would cure almost every one of the justified complaints in our present

system: as I read through what is proposed I became almost alarmed at the radicalism with which the task has been undertaken.

To start with, there is a proposal which would wipe out in one clause something like 90 per cent of libel actions before they got into court: the judges (and you know how I love judges) would rule, before the trial machinery even started, whether the words complained of are capable of bearing the defamatory meaning alleged.

Next, and nearly as good, a libel defendant would avoid the entire courtroom proceedings, together with the years of preparation, if willing to make an offer of amends, which would take the form of an agreement that the defendant is in the wrong and is willing to

pay a sum in damages fixed by a judge.

Then again, another grievance will be ended: it was one of Robert Maxwell's most used weapons. He would take an action for libel, but not go forward with it, thus stifling not only the defendant but any further investigation in the tender area. Then the law allowed him to mock justice for three years, before the case had to be prosecuted or dropped; in the new version, it is put up or shut up in a year.

But the jolliest item of all, a libel defendant would avoid the entire courtroom proceedings, together with the years of preparation, if willing to make an offer of amends, which would take the form of an agreement that the defendant is in the wrong and is willing to

reputable or indeed crooked the plaintiff, the defendant could not use knowledge of the opponent's specific malfeasances, but could only plead that the plaintiff had a general bad character, which was thus almost impossible to prove. Now, it seems a defendant will at least be able to mitigate damages if the defence can adduce evidence of wrongdoing in the area of the case.

It has been said that Lord Mackay wants to leave the Woolsack; I hope that it is not true, and if it is that he will reconsider his decision. Half a century has gone by without any significant reshaping of our libel laws, and half of that half century has been exploited by some of the worst rogues who ever walked into a courtroom poor and walked out very rich indeed. If Lord Mackay does retire, I for one shall fire off a 21-gun salute, and then go and libel somebody, just for fun.

### Let stalk Strine

A LITTLE-KNOWN fact about the late Monica Dickens was her contribution to Australian sub-culture — she was responsible for the language known as Strine. Back in the Sixties, while Dickens was in a Sydney bookshop autographing copies of her latest book, a woman handed her a copy and said: "Emma Chisit". Assuming this to be her name, Dickens dutifully wrote "To Emma Chisit" on the flyleaf. This did little to satisfy the purchaser who had, of course, been asking "How much is it?"

The incident was later reported in a Sydney newspaper and a new Antipodean language was born. It became particularly popular through the efforts of Afterbeck Lauder, a linguistic luminary who made himself professor of Strine studies at Sydney University. Lauder, whose real name has never been known, invented the word Strine — from Australian — and coined such unforgettable phrases as *gloria soame* (*gloria's home*), *marmore dead* (*Mum and Dad*), and, of course, *orpheus rocker* — which needs no translation.

The order book for the prints,

### DIARY

which range in price from £1,750 to £3,000, makes interesting reading — not least as a barometer of the relative popularity of the post-war leadership. Baroness Thatcher, the only female member of the club, heads the list, with John Major and Winston Churchill running close behind. Sir Edward Heath is left trailing in their wake, whereas Lord Home — whose tenure was not of the longest — remains surprisingly popular.

The present prime minister must indeed be flattered. The orders made for prints of Major have been lodged in anticipation, rather than appreciation, of his portrait. "The official portrait of John Major has not been done yet because of his punishing schedule," says Martin Cowen, who is responsible for the project. "In spite of this, the orders are still coming in. All proceeds will be used for the

continued refurbishment and renovation necessary because of the terrorist attack on the club." A stock of 850 pictures has been printed of the last three prime ministers — those complete with signed letters commanding the highest prices. The four surviving Tory prime ministers, all of whom have enthusiastically supported the scheme, will be presented with their own prints — gratis.

**Robert Hayward**, the Tory party's pet peashooter, for personal advice. Hayward saw the prime minister twice in one day before Christmas, and calculated that Major, who enjoys the largest numerical majority of any British prime minister, is likely to see the number dwindle to 20,000. "With that sort of majority he hasn't got too much to concern him," says Hayward, who should know. He lost his Kingswood seat, where he had a 4,393 majority, at the last election.

**Even the most devoted opera**

**lovers may occasionally balk at the £3.60 cost of a round of smoked salmon sandwiches at Covent Garden's crush bar. They may turn their noses up even more if they know they may be eating recycled offerings. Long gone are the days when unsold sandwiches were offered to the staff restaurant. They are offered for sale again the next day, according to UpRHO, the in-house magazine.**

### Shrinking Major

THE natural caution of John Major did not prevent him from flying out to Bosnia, but the prime minister is nevertheless showing considerable angst over the fate of his 36,200 majority in Huntingdon, likely to be reduced by as much as half if the Boundary Commission has its way.

So worried is Major by the

proposals that he has called in

of times. In an act of aristocratic defiance, Scarborough has sent a Christmas card to all 63 members of the local council depicting him in a coronet and robes trying to warm his cockles by a log fire. Drawn by his friend

**Willy Rushton**, the card offers "warm wishes for Christmas and the New Year".

The council has imposed the ban under a new smoke-control order, which, thankfully, does not prevent the use of central heating. "At least I can use that," says Scarborough. "I won't break the law but the rooms here are so big that open fires help keep the place warm. It does seem ridiculous that I can't burn wood in my home but I can in the garden."



## JAILHOUSE ROCKED

**Britain's prisons need the disciplines of the market**

The Ballad of Reading Gaol was played once again over the weekend and its refrain remains as bleak as ever. As the buildings of this remand centre blazed, inmates rioted and injured prison officers were rushed to hospital. Derek Lewis, the prison service's new director general, must have wondered whether his appointment last week was much of a Christmas present.

The choice of Mr Lewis, the former chief executive of a television company, who admitted he had never visited a jail, has been widely criticised. But the appointment of an experienced businessman untarnished by the sluggish culture of the penal system may prove to be an inspired one.

Spending on Britain's 128 prisons rose by 13 per cent in 1990-1. The Woolf report which followed the Strangeways riots of two years ago has set a fresh agenda for humane reform. Yet the problems of overcrowding, inhumane conditions, drug abuse and prisoner suicide seem as insoluble as ever. The prison service is in no position to scorn the counsel of a distinguished outsider.

Official fingers usually get burnt when they set about penal reform. How a society punishes its lawbreakers is a mark of its ethical character, humanitarianism and commitment to the rule of law. Any change, therefore, is bound to offend one moral position or another — as Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, will discover if he chooses to introduce custodial sentences for young teenagers.

But the resistance to change in the prison system also reflects the power of the vested interests that run it. No public sector union has managed to insulate itself from reform quite so successfully, and for so long, as the Prison Officers' Association. Anomously, its 29,500 members have retained the right to strike, while the union's stranglehold on staffing levels and rosters has made a

mockery of modernisation plans. Last year, each prison officer took an average of five weeks' sick leave. The Fresh Start programme to reduce overtime costs is now in place and will encourage a loosening of these restrictive practices. But the reform of the prison service must rest on two more foundations: the development of a mixed economy and radical decentralisation.

The privatisation of prisons has become a fiercely emotive issue, provoking the charge that businessmen will be profiting from suffering. Yet what Mr Clarke proposes is not a straightforward sell-off but an ordered procedure for contracting out services previously provided by a grossly inefficient monopoly. Agreements between state and contractors will be hedged about with conditions and the threat of stiff financial penalties. Privately-run prisons will be supervised by a government servant and monitored by Judge Tumlin's inspectorate. The market should complement, rather than undermine, the state.

The record of the American prison system shows that privatisation is not a panacea and there have already been instances of violence and abuse at the Wolds Centre in Humber-side, the first private prison in this country. There is no guarantee that the private sector will be able to raise the resources to bid for prison contracts. But the aim of the reform should not be uniform privatisation but a healthy mixed economy in which private and public sector both play a part and competition edges out stagnation.

Above all, this should be accompanied by decentralisation. The establishment of the new prison services agency in April under Mr Lewis is a step towards devolution; but it is absurd that prison governors are still unable to recruit, promote or hire staff. Every school in the country now runs its own budget. Why not prisons?

## VIEW HALLOO!

**Stop harassing huntsmen for their old tradition of a good time**

Today two tribes of traditional British sportsmen will be out in force for one of the first mass meetings of their season. From the South Devon to the Duke of Buccleuch's, and from the Essex and Suffolk to the Llandaff Farmers', the countryside of Great Britain will once again come alive with the sweet music of the hounds, the bray of the hunting set, and the hullabaloo of the hunt saboteurs being dragged away by police or beaten up by hunt followers. The huntsmen chase the fox, and the anti-hunters chase the hunters: the sabs in pursuit of the nob, and the demonstrators harassing the equitors.

Both sides in their opposed sports stand at the head of very long traditions. The custom of taking hounds on military campaign and writing about their care goes back beyond the Duke of Wellington to the dim past of Arrian, the biographer of Alexander the Great, and Xenophon. Hunting for pleasure is a primeval human instinct, started by the ancient Briton bringing home the bacon by biffing a behemoth, and extending down to the young bloods who galloped a straight line at Balaclava or drove one in the Gulf war. From that inveterate poacher, Falstaff, to Surtees, Kipling, Siegfried Sassoon and Evelyn Waugh, literature is full of hunting. In their devotion to it from William the Conqueror, who enclosed the New Forest for his sport, onwards, hunting has been a defining pastime of the monarchy.

On the other hand, opposition to hunting is not just a new pursuit of the envious or priggish urban and suburban masses. It represents an old English Puritan tradition of single-issue fanaticism and bossing other people about how to behave. Sam Johnson said that it was very strange, and very

melancholy, that the paucity of human pleasures should persuade anyone to call hunting one of them. And William Cowper exclaimed: "Detested sport. That owes its pleasures to another's pain." As Margot Asquith interrupted, when someone was praising her beau noir Lord Lansdale's prowess as a rider to hounds: "Jump? Anyone can jump. Look at fleas."

More people are hunting and following hunts than ever before. The gulf between the country hunting tribe and the suburban protesting tribe is vast, and growing wider. Both sides really need to cultivate that other old English virtue of tolerance.

Earlier this year a video nasty, taken by a mole from the League Against Cruel Sports, showed cuddly little foxes being dug out and thrown to the hounds by the celebrated Quorn Hunt, and so (rightly) disgusted tender opinion. Kevin McNamara's wild mammals (protection) bill was defeated by only 12 votes earlier this year, with 27 Conservatives supporting it. Campaigns to ban hunting on National Trust land and around the county councils will not go away.

The saddle-leather conservatives of hunting must bend to the modern winds and codify their sport so as to minimise cruelty. The protestors ought to accept that there is far more cruelty done to animals in stocking the deep freezers in supermarkets than in the highly inefficient but necessary culling of foxes by hunting.

Neutrals observing the two sports on the hunting field today, like many bounting on it, will support that other honourable old English tradition of shouting for the underdog — and wish the old fox a good run for his money. Run, Reynard, run.

## GOOD THINGS, GREAT THOUGHTS

**Christmas Past: a series on the unchanging face of the season. Seven: From The Times of December 27, 1932**

This morning's Great Thought is that from Land's End to Berwick-on-Tweed, from Lowestoft to St David's Head, today has been declared an extra Bank Holiday. This, as the authors of *1066 and All That* would put it, is a Good Thing, though, like other good things, it may have its drawbacks.

The heads of families, for instance, with shrunken incomes that will not run to unlimited holiday treats, and such tradesmen as would prefer to keep their shops open, may have their own ideas about it. But to the generality of mankind, owing to the frailty of human nature and the inherent laziness of the flesh, the prospect of what schoolboys call a long lie-in is undoubtedly a Good Thing in itself.

So, too, is the blessed Sabbath relief of not having to run for the 8.52 up or a Number 11 omnibus on the way to the daily round of all the trivial tasks that between them make this busy little world of ours go round.

But what about the rest of the day? For this, besides being an extra Bank Holiday, is a second Boxing Day, on which, as the dictionary tersely remarks, "Christmas boxes, or presents, are given to errand boys, postmen, &c". Some fraction of every penny that we put into an outstretched hand goes indirectly to increase the amount of employment, and so to help the great army of men and women who are condemned for at least some part of the year to a life of enforced idleness the very reverse of a holiday, because so many mills and pits and steamships are silent and smokeless and so

many shops half empty of customers.

In America, where most things, including unemployment, gangsters, bullion, Hollywood, and tariff walls, are on a grander scale than in this tiny island, the several States enjoy between them no fewer than ten public holidays, not counting Christmas Day and Good Friday, as compared with our paltry four. The full list begins with New Year's Day and ends with the anniversary of the Pilgrim Fathers' first Harvest Thanksgiving, besides commemorating the birthdays of Lincoln and Washington and the day on which Columbus first set eyes on the New World.

It may, perhaps, be a Good Thing for the citizens of both nations to reflect that though, in spite of our longer history, our own list is shorter, both countries have a common bond and memory in Armistice Day, and that their Labour Day is bound to suggest to us as well as to them the common need, by concerted action or mutual concessions, or both, to reduce the growing volume of unemployment to the lowest possible figure. Tomorrow, when we go back to work, it may help to lessen the shock of "that Monday feeling", none the less trying because it has been postponed for two days, if we bethink ourselves that here and in the United States and the whole of the world to which we all belong there are, on these lines of common concern and common action, many Good Things to be thankful for and to be done and many Great and inspiring Thoughts to be thought out and carried into speedy action.

## Inadequate care for our animals

*From Mrs Joanne Bower*

Sir, A letter from 14 farm animal welfare groups and individuals, including several vets and farmers, was delivered to John Gummer, minister of agriculture, on December 9 asking for urgent action to ensure:

1. An eight-hour minimum total transport time for animals from the point of sale to ultimate destination for either slaughter or finishing.
2. The retention of the current carriage (resting place) requirements for all animals being sent overseas, in view of Britain's natural sea boundary.
3. *Regulations for animal transport throughout the EC similar to those already in use in the UK.*

These would apply until such time as the detailed amendments to the EC Directive on transport are implemented.

On December 10 Mr Gummer announced in the Commons, from January 1, a 15-hour transport time before feeding and watering (no maximum limit to journeys) and an end to a mandatory requirement for animals to be rested at a lairage. On December 16 he also announced a lifting of the ban on the export of animals to Spain for slaughter, which was imposed because of the appalling conditions in Spanish abattoirs.

As the EC Directive is not yet finalised and member states are allowed to retain their own rules until it is complete, the action of the minister in downgrading our regulations in this way is incomprehensible.

Yours faithfully,  
JOANNE BOWER  
(Honorary Secretary),  
The Farm and Food Society,  
4 Willifield Way, NW1.  
December 18.

*From Mr Colin Smith*

Sir, There can be few images which more poignantly express the horror of animal experiments than your photograph (December 23) of the macaque monkey undergoing tests before being launched into space in a Bios rocket for a joint Russian-American space biology project, allegedly to monitor the brain's reaction to weightlessness.

While one admires those humans who willingly volunteer for pioneering space-travel exploits, many of us feel only contempt for those who subject other sentient beings to physical and mental torment which they dare not face themselves. Setting aside the moral aspects, experimentation on animals is a crude and unscientific method of research into the human condition and we can but hope that 1993 may herald a new and enlightened age.

Yours faithfully,  
COLIN SMITH  
(Secretary-General, International Association against Painful Experiments on Animals),  
29 College Place,  
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

## Hospital closures

*From Mr D. L. Crosby*

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("Suffer the little children", December 16) is right to deplore the unscrupulous tactics used by Bart's in resisting closure. Problems similar to those facing Bart's exist nationwide.

Split-site or duplicated medical facilities as well as outdated inefficient hospitals are common and, as in London, are sustained by self-interested lobbies, misguided loyalties and weak management by health authorities. Much of the so-called under-funding of the NHS is due to this failure to make better use of resources.

It has long been plain to me that all those who are acutely ill and need admission to hospital are best treated in large, single-site centres which are fully equipped and constantly staffed. Whilst medical teaching and research are vital investments for the future, it is high time that they were organised to fit in with patient care rather than vice versa.

Yours faithfully,  
D. L. CROSBY  
(Consultant Surgeon),  
University Hospital of Wales,  
Heath Park, Cardiff.

*From Mr Anthony Wieler*

Sir, Why not move Bart's to Beds, Guy's to Guildford and St Thomas's to Telford — so that the names are preserved? Only the buildings need be destroyed.

In sorrow over that, too.  
Yours sincerely,  
ANTHONY WIELER,  
Fareham, Hampshire,  
Nr Godalming, Surrey.

December 21.

## Life's pilgrimage

*From Mr John Raybould*

Sir, While changing buses recently in the Aldwych I overheard a rather confused and elderly man ask the bus conductor how she could get to the Angel.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN RAYBOULD,  
The Old Vicarage,  
High Street, Newport,  
Saffron Walden, Essex.

December 24.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 8XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Debate on the future of the Crown

*From Mr Ian Flintoff*

Sir, In his cogent analysis of the future of the Crown ("Who should be president of Britain?", December 18) Ludovic Kennedy fails to note that as words and concepts are modified by history, we do now have (in the strictest sense of the word) a president of Britain (i.e., one who "presides" or sits in the first position), albeit a hereditary one. In the United States, on the other hand, and again in the true sense of the word, a monarch (or single ruler) is chosen by election.

The question, then, is not whether we should have a president (whether by birth or vote) but what that president may most usefully do.

What may be most lacking in modern societies is the ballast of considered and unorthodox opinion to temper the flood of media conformity. Our social and individual behaviour — especially with the young — is now so indoctrinated by media conformity (in everything from clothes to "relationships") that the most useful role of presidency may be outspoken scepticism and examination of these flood-tide trends that sweep all before them.

For this reason, unrepresentative socialist though I am, I think the Prince of Wales has already laid the groundwork for such a future role. By being willing to face down ridicule and derision he has shown that infectious treachery, though often harmless and entertaining, may not be the best way to sustain and develop social systems or to enhance the social environment.

Yours sincerely,  
IAN FLINTOFF,  
22 Chalton Road, SW6.

December 18.

*From Mr David Watt*

Sir, It may be, sadly, that the world today is in many respects "shrunken and utilitarian", but it need not always be so.

The truth is that our monarchy, loved by countless millions of people in this country and around the globe, is almost the only institution which, when allowed some respect and privacy, can time and time again lift us out of this utilitarian world in a way

We agree.  
Yours faithfully,  
DAVID LANDSBOROUGH,  
JEAN LANDSBOROUGH,  
4 Cordrey Gardens,  
Coulson, Surrey.  
December 19.

### Israeli actions

*From Sir Frederick Bennett*

Sir, It is absurd for Mr Lehrer (letter, December 19) to seek to equate the iniquity of Israel in having expelled several hundred Palestinians from their homeland, in defiance of UN resolutions, international law and The Hague conventions, with the actions taken by Gulf states in sending back to Pakistan a number of the citizens of this country because of involvement in protest demonstrations in Arabia against Hindus destroying a mosque in India, or with the decision of the Egyptians to intern a number of extremist fundamentalist foreign-countrymen. The deported Palestinians were forcefully sent away from their own homeland.

Israel justifies its behaviour as a reaction to the recent kidnap and death of a single Israeli soldier. Yet during an active resistance movement since 1987 (Intifada) against Israel's continuing unlawful occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza strip, 933 Arab men, women and children have been slaughtered by the Syrian occupying army in Lebanon.

Never has there been more evident now as 400 Palestinians are being allowed by their brothers to languish in freezing cold conditions in Lebanon.

Yours faithfully,

BRIAN GORDON  
(Vice-Chairman), Lloyd-Herit Movement of Great Britain,  
143-5 Brondesbury Park, NW2.

December 23.

*From Mr Brian Gordon*

Sir, Lord Mayhew's reference (letter, December 23) to Israeli "ethnic cleansers" in relation to the Arabs who previously left Palestine is a distortion of history.

The Arabs who left Palestine in 1948 and Israel in 1967 did so of their own accord and were encouraged to do so by the surrounding Arab countries. Since then, the Palestinian problem has continually been exploited by the Arab world as a weapon against Israel.

Never has there been more evident now as 400 Palestinians are being allowed by their brothers to languish in freezing cold conditions in Lebanon.

Yours faithfully,

BERNARD T. CROFT,  
4 Freeman's Court,  
Waverley Lane, York.

December 17.

*From Mr R. V. Taylor*

Sir, Philip Howard need not "journey to the exotic shores of Umberto Eco ... or Ellis Peters" to find a fictional clergyman as murderer. In *The Hammer of God*, Father Brown uncovers the village vicar, the Reverend and Honourable Wilfred Bohun, as the killer.

Can we now look forward to some

dirty deeds by fictional clergymen?

Yours sincerely,

R. V. TAYLOR,  
14 Wakes Close,  
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

December 17.

*From Mr K. R. Chapman*

Sir, In *The Crowing Hen* by Reginald Davis, published in 1936, the vicar did it. On reading this book at the age of 14 I was quite shocked by the revelation in the last chapter. Like Mr Howard, I had assumed this to be impossible.

The vicar was, of course, quite mad;

so I suppose this made it alright.

Yours faithfully,

KENNETH CHAPMAN,  
Pine Plant, Heath Ride,  
Finchamp



## COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM,  
NORFOLK.  
December 27: A Service of Lessons and Carols was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning.

The Duke of York has accepted the appointment as Visitor to the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook.

### Birthdays today

Air Commodore Molly Allott, former director, WRAP, 74; Mr Terry Butcher, footballer, 34; Mr W.A. Camps, former master, Pembroke College, Cambridge, 82; Mr D.B. Carr, cricketer, 66; Sir Andrew Macand-Makgill-Crichton, former vice-chairman, Port of London Authority, 82; Sir Bryan Gold, VC, 78; Mr Michael Hastings, editor-in-chief, *The Daily Telegraph*, 47; Mr Roy Hattersley, MP, 60; Mr Nigel Kennedy, violinist, 36; Mr Michael Marland, educationalist, 58; Mrs Frances Morell, former leader, ILEA, 55; Sir Patrick O'Connor, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 78; Mr Simon Raven, author and dramatist, 65; Professor E.J. Richards, aeronautical engineer, 78; Mrs Joan Ruddock, MP, 49; Dame Maggie Smith, actress, 58; the Right Rev W.J. Westwood, Bishop of Peterborough, 67; the Hon Geoffrey Wilson, chairman, Delta Group, 63; the Marquess of Zetland, 55.

### Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Alexander Keith Johnson, geographer, Penicuik, 1804; Samuel Phillips, journalist, 1814; Thomas Woodrow Wilson, 28th American President, 1913-21; Stamford, Virginia, 1856; Pio Baroja y Nessi, novelist, San Sebastian, Spain, 1872; Sir Arthur Eddington, astronomer, Kendal, Cumbria, 1882; St Francis de Sales, doctor of the church, 1622; Queen Mary II, reigned with King William III 1689-94, London, 1694; Pierre Bayle, philosopher, 1706; Thomas Babington Macaulay, 1st Baron Macaulay, poet, historian and statesman, London, 1800; George Gissing, novelist, Steven de la France, 1903; Maurice Theodore Dreiser, novelist, Hollywood, 1945; Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy 1900-46, Egypt, 1947; Jack Lovelock, surgeon, Olympic 1500m gold medalist, 1936, killed in an accident, New York, 1949; Paul Hindemith, composer, Frankfurt am Main, 1963. The Tay Bridge disaster, 1879. The Peak District was designated Britain's first national park, 1950.

### Appointment

Mr Registrar Pimm to be Chief Registrar in Bankruptcy from January 6, in succession to Mr Registrar Dewhurst.

## University news

### London

#### King's College

Professor Richard Griffiths, Head of the Department of French, has been appointed Vice-Principal.

#### Appointments to Established Chairs

Dr Manuel Villaverde Cabral to the newly established Prince Henry the Navigator Chair of Portuguese History.

Mr John Langdon of King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry to the Chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Head of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Dr Alison White to the newly established Chair of Community Nursing.

#### Personal chairs

The following have had personal professorships conferred upon them:

Dr Gordon Davies, Professor of Physics; Mr C (Robin) Morse, Professor of Law; Mr Kyriacos Nicolaides, Professor of Foetal Medicine; Dr Richard Overy, Professor of Modern History; Dr John Price, Professor of Paediatric Respiratory; Dr Michael Robb, Professor of Chemistry; Mrs Jane Roberts, Professor of English; Dr Diego Vergani, Professor of Immunology.

#### Memberships

The following have had the title of reader conferred upon them:

Dr Nick Green, chemistry; Mr Andrew Grubb, medical law; Dr Emily Grundy, gerontology; Dr Efraim Karsh, war studies; Dr Mary Mackenzie, philosophy; Dr Malcolm Maden, experimental embryology; Dr Giovanni Mann, physiology; Dr Andrew Pressley, mathematics; Dr Mark Sandler, digital signal processing. Mr John Woolford, English.

#### City

The following honorary degrees were conferred on December 7:

Sir Francis McWilliams, Lord Mayor of London and the new Chancellor of City University (Doctor of Civil Law); Eric Ambler, novelist and screenwriter (Doctor of Letters); Professor Stuart M Hall, professor of sociology, The Open University (Doctor of Letters); The Rt Hon Sir Leonard Hoffman, Lord Justice of Appeal (Doctor of Civil Law).

J R Forrest, chairman, National Telecommunications (Doctor of Science).

Professor Anthony Ledwith, research director, Pilkingtons (Doctor of Science); Maxwell Graham Hebditch, Director, Museum of London (Doctor of Letters).

**DEATHS:** St Francis de Sales, doctor of the church, 1622; Queen Mary II, reigned with King William III 1689-94, London, 1694; Pierre Bayle, philosopher, 1706; Thomas Babington Macaulay, 1st Baron Macaulay, poet, historian and statesman, London, 1800; George Gissing, novelist, Steven de la France, 1903; Maurice Theodore Dreiser, novelist, Hollywood, 1945; Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy 1900-46, Egypt, 1947; Jack Lovelock, surgeon, Olympic 1500m gold medalist, 1936, killed in an accident, New York, 1949; Paul Hindemith, composer, Frankfurt am Main, 1963.

The Tay Bridge disaster, 1879. The Peak District was designated Britain's first national park, 1950.

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## Forthcoming marriages

Mr G.B. Cooper and Miss H.L. Laws. The engagement announced between Giles, son of Mr and Mrs Rupert Cooper, of Edington Priory, Wiltshire, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Laws, of Castle, Belgium.

Mr A.J. Clegg and Mrs J.A. Clegg. The engagement is announced between Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Brian Corlett, of Sulby Glen, Isle of Man, and Julia, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Clegg, of Braddan, Isle of Man.

Mr A.M. Cox and Miss J.A. Groves. The engagement is announced between Anthony, only son of Mr and Mrs Harold Cox, of Sedgley, and Janet, only daughter of Mrs Barbara Grove, and the late Mr William Grove, of Wolverhampton.

Mr S.M.W. Curtis and Miss C.H. Farant. The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Philip Curtis, of Wimborne, Dorset, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Timothy Curtis, of Johannesburg.

South Africa, and Caroline Heathcoat, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Heathcoat, of Farnham, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr D.K. Edwards and Miss E.J. Edwards. The engagement is announced between David, son of Mrs Edwards and the late Mr T.K. Edwards, of Belfast, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.P. Benson, of Southwell, Nottinghamshire.

Mr S.W.G. Irwin and Miss F.M. Barber. The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs Charles Barber, of Bramley, Surrey, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.A. Barbour, of Furness Green, East Sussex.

Mr J.S. Kilgour and Miss V.A. Kilpatrick. The engagement is announced between John, youngest son of Mrs Elizabeth Kilgour and the late John Kilgour, of Lower Largo, Fife, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Kilpatrick, of Kilmun, Argyll.

Mr and Mrs J.A. Groves. The engagement is announced between Anthony, only son of Mr and Mrs Harold Cox, of Sedgley, and Janet, only daughter of Mrs Barbara Grove, and the late Mr William Grove, of Wolverhampton.

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Mr S.M.W. Curtis and Miss C.H. Farant. The engagement is announced

## OBITUARIES

## MONICA DICKENS

**Monica Dickens, MBE (Mrs R. O. Stratton), author of a score or more of highly readable and often very funny novels that were read by the million, died in a Reading hospital on Christmas day aged 77. She was born on May 10, 1915.**

**THE fact that Monica Dickens was a great-granddaughter of Charles Dickens probably did not hinder her rise to become one of the world's most successful fiction writers of her day. Her work, if never in the first rank of literature, had something of his flair for opening windows on parts of the world — the world behind the scenes, the world below stairs, and often the squalid world — that readers liked to look through if they could be persuaded by writing that was attractive enough.**

**Monica Dickens was a shrewd reporter with a sense of atmosphere that caused John Betjeman, for instance, to call her "one of the most affectionate and humorous observers of the English scene." She was to develop into a shrewd observer of the New England scene, too, after moving there when she married a US Navy officer, and she was a founder of the Samaritans movement in the United States.**

**Monica Enid Dickens was educated at St Paul's Girls' School, from which she claimed to have been expelled for throwing her school uniform off Hammersmith bridge into the Thames. A self-confessed "fat, rebellious girl," she had apparently taken exception to the box pleats of the official skirt, which did nothing for her figure.**

**If it is true, as cynics say, that the sure-fire formula for a best-selling romantic novel is the doctor-nurse relationship, she gave herself a head start by training as a nurse during the war. This led to *One Pair of Feet* (1942), a loosely autobiographical story, often comic but with a true feeling for the sadness of hospitals.**

**It was a sequel to her first, dramatically successful, essay in fictionalised biography, *One Pair of***



**Hands.** An account of her experiences as a freelance "cook general" at the tail end of the cocktail party era between the wars when everybody with middle class pretensions had somebody to do the housework, at least some of the time. First published in 1939, it went through edition after edition, became a set book for school examinations and was still in print half a century later.

**One Pair of Hands,** although written in the light, gosh-jolly

hockeysticks style of the Thirties, was nevertheless regarded as a slightly daring book, if only because it was a daring thing for a girl of her background — she was a pre-war deb — to have ventured through the green bazaars to the servants' quarters. Sometimes there were parties where there would be somebody she knew, she would recall: "I had to hide behind a palm, or keep my head down as I cruised the crowd with my tray of Sidecars and White Ladies."

**The classic Monica Dickens version of the doctor-nurse love story — with a mature humour that put it far above pulp fiction — was *Thursday Afternoons* (1945). The theme, the tragic-comic romantic fantasies of a heroine past the first flush of girlhood, was one she was to return to.**

**Her nursing training was followed by training as a journalist. This led to *My Turn to Make the Tea*, which remains possibly the truest picture ever painted of life in the office of a local weekly paper. She has an eye for what was funny, but also what was sordid and petty. (The joke in the title was that since she was the only girl in the office, it was always her turn to make the tea.)**

**For 20 years she wrote a column for *Woman's Own*, continuing to write it when she went to live in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, after marrying Commander Roy Stratton of the US Navy in 1951. As a columnist she had that rare virtue of not taking herself too seriously, weekly dispensing, in her own words, "oceans of facile wisdom."**

**To Americans she was indulgent ... Oh my, Miss Dickinson," they always seemed to be saying. "So Shakespeare was your uncle ..." She followed the obvious course of going on the American lecture circuit. Much of the content of lectures, she admitted, was textbook stuff about her great-grandfather, presented as family secrets. It had never occurred to her to question her grandfather about the great man. But she did remember her grandfather at the grand Christmas assemblies of the clan, giving his impersonations of his father reading from the novels. The family tradition was almost that writing had stopped with Dickens' death. Hence the disapproval in the air when she started out as an author.**

**In 1970 Monica Dickens moved into children's literature with *The House at World's End*, including some of her memories of her own, full childhood. (She had it "translated into American" so that children in the United States could read it. The subtle differences of meaning and**

**nuances of English words in America constantly fascinated her.)**

**There followed the horsey "Follyfoot" stories, which became a television series. Animals, particularly horses, were one of her passions, a fact that had much to do with the childhood weekends she had spent at a cottage in the Thames Valley where she had kept her own pony. *Cobbler's Dream*, about cruelty to animals, was one of several books with a serious message. *She did her homework diligently. Kate and Emma*, about cruelty to children, followed months of observing NSPCC inspectors at work. *The Room Upstairs* was about the plight of old people.**

**Her interest in the Samaritans arose from her reporter's curiosity. She interviewed the movement's founder, Chad Varah, and worked alongside him during several spells in London. On this she based *The Listeners*. She went on to open the Boston Samaritans' branch in 1974 and it became the busiest in the world. Her autobiography, *An Open Book*, appeared in 1978.**

**Her husband died in 1985 and she**

**then returned to England to live in a secluded Berkshire cottage. This was in no sense a retirement from literary activity. If anything the move seems to have stimulated her creative impulses and in 1988 she published *Dear Doctor Lily*, her first novel for eight years. Describing experiences in both England and America over a period of 20 years it arose very directly out of the events of her life up to that date, some of which were recent and painful. Roseate nostalgia was never for her and for *Enchantment* (1989), a novel about a mentally-isolated figure which was suggested to some extent (though she was careful to distance her protagonist from violence) by the psychology which underlay the events of the Hungerford massacre, she went on a survival course. She continued to produce a book almost yearly until her death and her latest novel, *One of the Family* is due to be published in the Spring of next year.**

**She leaves two daughters.**

## CARDEW ROBINSON



**Cardew Robinson, the actor and comedian, died in hospital at Roehampton yesterday aged 75. He was born in Goodmayes, Essex on August 14, 1917.**

**BEST known for the schoolboy character Cardew the Cad that he created in the 1940s, Cardew Robinson was a thin, gangling fellow who always managed to retain his popularity with the public. The Cad was a mixture of the "sons" of Harry Tate in an old fashioned music hall sketch entitled *Motoring* and the pupils of Will Hay in the immortal *Fourth Form at St Michael's*.**

**He gained fame for its creator first on the radio and variety stage. Later it became a strip cartoon character in children's newspapers both in England and abroad. It was from this strip cartoon that a film, *Fun at St Fagans*, was made and brought Robinson new success.**

**Perhaps the reason for Robinson's continuing prosperity when music hall, variety and radio comedy began to leave us was the fact that he was versatile enough to make the switch to other branches of entertainment with little difficulty.**

**He tackled all types of roles in the West End and was perhaps most widely acclaimed as the comedy lead King Pellenore in *Camelot* at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, during every one of its 650 performances. He also appeared in films and night-club spots at the same time that his soppy king was raising**

**Robinson was a quiet studious man, whose private face belied his public appearance. His hobbies were golf (he was a past captain of the Vaudeville Golfing Society), listening to classical music and studying the ways and history of the North American Indians.**

**Robinson was married for 25 years to Eileen Kay, a former dancer who now lives in Miami. They had two daughters who also now live in Florida.**

## RICHARD H. ICHORD

**Richard H. Ichord, the last chairman of America's notorious Un-American Activities Committee, died of heart failure in Nevada, Missouri, on December 25 aged 66. He was born in Licking, Missouri, on June 27, 1926.**

**UNDETERRED by the fact that Senator Joseph McCarthy had given witch-hunting a bad name, Richard Ichord set to with a will to rid the United States of a perceived communist threat when he took up the reins of the Un-American Activities Committee in 1969. His prime targets were protesters against the war in Vietnam, and he used his position to publish a list of "radical orators" at colleges around the country.**

**Among those accused were Muhammad Ali, Angela Davis, Abbie Hoffman and Dr Benjamin Spock, and Ichord rejected arguments that he was trying to stifle dissent. When the actress Jane Fonda travelled to North Vietnam at the height of the conflict in Southeast Asia, Ichord responded by introducing a bill banning travel to countries**

**battles simultaneously, one parallel and the other oblique. He attacked Wellington in front while on his right flank he was attacked by Blücher. If he had only had to fight one battle, he would have won it. M. Houssey proceeds thus — "In the German Emperor's toast, however, I find a misstatement. It is not true to say that the German Legion saved the English Army." Like the Belgians, the contingent of Nassau, and the Brunswick Corps, the German Legion was under the direct orders of Wellington. It contributed bravely and efficaciously to defend the plateau, but it had no decisive action on the issue of the battles. The defense of the farm of La Haye Saline by Major Baring with nine companies of Hanoverian soldiers deserves, however, to be recalled. He only surrendered that position after having lost 850 men out of 900, while the 42 remaining soldiers had no more cartridges. But the Coldstream Guards defended less vigorously the farm of Hougomont, where they fought like demons in the midst of the burning barns. English, Prussians, Belgians, Germans, and French all fought that day with the same valour, the same determination, and the same fury. As Wellington said, it was a band of giants".**

## INA SOUEZ

**Ina Souez, American soprano who appeared with the Glyndebourne Opera regularly before the second world war, died on December 7 in Santa Monica aged 89. She was born Ina Raines in Windsor, Colorado, on June 3, 1903.**

**INA Souez spent less than 20 years as an operatic soprano. In her early forties she decided that her voice was declining and switched from opera to comedy, appearing with Spike Jones and his City Slickers. The move brought its financial rewards too. She adapted well to the zany Spike Jones style and had no objection to having trumpeters pulling pinions from her large hat while she was singing.**

**But in Britain she was known mainly for her portrayal of Fiordiligi in the first performance at Glyndebourne in 1934 of *Cost fan tutte*. She sang the role for all the seasons up to the outbreak of war and in 1936 added a notable interpretation of *Donna Anna*. Her singing suggested a strong, well-controlled tone and plenty of dramatic input, allied to a firm command of Mozartian style.**

**Her guru at Glyndebourne was the conductor Fritz Busch**



## MAJOR-GENERAL ADRIAN HOPE

**Major-General Adrian Price Webley Hope, CB, CBE, deputy master-general of the Ordnance in the Ministry of Defence, 1964-66, died on December 12 aged 81. He was born on January 21, 1911.**

**ONE of the most experienced and respected logistic planners in the latter half of the second world war and the first half of the Cold War, Adrian Hope was prevented by air crash injuries from reaching the Army's most senior ranks.**

**Had he not been badly hurt when a Sunderland flying boat crashed in the Johore Strait in 1946, he would almost certainly have reached the Army Council as either the Quartermaster General or Master General of the Ordnance.**

**The son of Admiral Herbert Hope CB, CVO, DSO, he was educated at Winchester and Sandhurst and was commissioned into the King's Own Scottish Borderers in 1931. He went with the 1st Battalion to Malaya and Palestine, becoming an adjutant when they returned to Portsmouth in 1936.**

**There he was befriended by the then Brigadier Bernard Montgomery, who took him to Palestine in 1938 as staff captain. Montgomery was invalided home in 1939 but Hope was sent to the Staff College in Haifa in 1940. He never returned to regimental duty.**

**His experience as a logistics planner began when he became deputy assistant quartermaster general in charge of plans at headquarters in Cairo, working for Wavell when the Italians were defeated in Cyrenaica and Mussolini's east African empire was destroyed in 1941.**

**After Tunis fell in May 1943, Hope joined Oliver Leese's 30th Corps as assistant quartermaster general for the Sicilian campaign and the invasion of Italy. He clearly established a rapport with Leese, who took over the 8th Army from Montgomery later that year, and went with him to set up a special logistic forward planning team which stayed**



**together both in Italy and the Far East. A colleague on the team remarked: "If genius lies in taking pains, Adrian was superbly meticulous in detail, hardworking with never a thought for himself and blessed with an exceptional memory. He was a great man to work for as well as being a delightful companion."**

**At the end of the Burma campaign Hope was promoted Brigadier "Q" in the new Allied land forces headquarters for South East Asia, which moved to Singapore after the Japanese surrender.**

**In March 1946 he was on his way to Tokyo on a special mission to find missing British prisoners of war in Japan. He was taking off from Seletar in a Sunderland when two engines failed on the same side and it turned turtle.**

**Hope was thrown through a hole in the**

**fuselage when the plane broke in two. It was some time before he was found drifting helplessly in the water, with a shoulder crushed and an arm shattered.**

**The momentum of Hope's career was lost. Invalided home, he spent two years in doctors' hands at a time when he should have been commanding his regiment — a vital step in any regular officer's career. Instead he was given command of the Army's administration school during his convalescence and then became an instructor at the new Joint Services Staff College at Latimer in late 1948.**

**By 1951 he was fit enough for overseas service and was sent out as a deputy quartermaster general in Middle East headquarters during the troubled period of the Aden crisis, the abrogation of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty and the fall of King Farouk. He was appointed CBE in 1952.**

**Returning to England, he attended the Imperial Defence College in 1954 before going to the War Office in 1955 as Brigadier (Q Operations), just in time to be closely involved in the planning and execution of the aborted Suez operation.**

**The logistic plan withstood all the buffering caused by the political and military misjudgments of the Eden government. His success brought him back into the mainstream of military policy-makers, but too late to catch up in the higher command stakes. After a year as brigadier in the general staff of the Army in Germany he was at last promoted Major General in 1959.**

**He held three two-star posts before he retired: Major General Administration in Far East Land Forces in Singapore, 1959-61; director of equipment policy in the War Office, 1961-64; and deputy master general of the Ordnance, 1964-66. His CB came in 1961.**

**He married Mary (Molly) Elizabeth Partridge in 1958. It was a very happy marriage, but too late for children. She died in 1990.**

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## Church news

**The Rev Mervyn Jennings, Priest-in-charge, Cresseng w Ty Green; to be Vicar, Barkingside, St Francis (Chelmsford).**

**The Rev Graham Joyce, Assistant Curate, St Catherine, Head Green; to be Rector, All Saints, Church Lawton (Chester).**

**The Rev Ken Kitchin; to be Assistant Curate, St Mary, Dalton in Furness (Carlisle).**

**The Rev Sean Loone, Curate, St Alphege, Solihull (Birmingham); to be Head of Religious Studies, Bromsgrove Lower School, Bromsgrove (Worcester).**

**The Rev Eugene Maxey, formerly serving in the American Episcopal Church; to be Assistant Curate, All Saints, Odd Rode (Chester).**

**The Rev Philip Miller, Chap-**

**lain to Burrwood Christian Centre for Medical and Spiritual Care, Tunbridge Wells (Rochester); to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary's, Combs (Edmundsbury and Ipswich).**

**The Rev Gregory Page-Turner, Rector, Askerswell, Loders and Powerstock; to be also Rural Dean of Lyme Bay (Salisbury).**

**The Rev Kenneth Povey, Rector, St James, Gawsworth; to be also an Honorary Canon of Chester Cathedral (Chester).**

**The Rev Patrick Thompson, Vicar, St Oswald, Norbury; to be Vicar, St Barnabas, Sutton (Southwark).**

**The Rev Brian Tigwell, Vicar, Devizes St Peter; to be also Rural Dean of Devizes (Salisbury).**

**The Rev Peter Tyson, Assistant Curate, Walsall Team Ministry (Salisbury).**

**Ministry: to Vicar, Walsall St John (The Pleck) (Lichfield).**

**The Rev Paul Welch, Priest-in-charge, Chingford-on-City, Cudham and Tunton, Bedfords and Hopton Castle (Hereford); to be Vicar, All Saints, Wellington (Shropshire).**

**The Rev Don Wins, Assistant Curate, and Minister in charge, St Mary and St Peter, Staines (London); to be Churches Officer for Economic and Social Affairs in the Bolton area (Manchester).**

**The Rev Canon Roger Williams, Rector, Shipton-on-Stour and an Honorary Canon of Coventry Cathedral; already appointed Rector, Lightborne w Cheverton and Bratton Clowery w Germansweek (Exeter); to retire from April 30, 1993.**

**Withdrawing of acceptance:**

**The Rev Mark Bailey, Assistant Curate, Highgate Holy Trinity, Norwich, has withdrawn his acceptance as Team Vicar, Swanage and Studland Team Ministry (Salisbury).**

## GERMAN EMPEROR AND WATERLOO

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

PARIS, DEC. 27.

**Many Englishmen must have hoped that some competent French authority would express an opinion on the Anglo-German controversy to which the Emperor William gave rise last week with regard to the battle of Waterloo. M. Henri Houssaye, of the French Académie, has now done so in a letter to the *Gaulois*.**

**M. Houssaye says that the irritation of the English Press would have been comprehensible if the Emperor William had insinuated that it was the Prussians who won the battle of Waterloo, but he knows military history too well not to be aware that the victory was principally due to the admirable tenacity of the English troops, who all of them stood literally on Wellington's order there is no other order than to fight to the last man.**

**When Zieten's Prussians reached the battlefield the two armies were exhausted. The arrival of these fresh troops was sufficient to decide the victory. But it was the English who**

## ON THIS DAY

December 28 1903

**A week earlier, the German Emperor William II, the Kaiser, had proposed the health of the German Legion which "in conjunction with Blücher and the Prussians, saved the English Army from destruction". A French academician, M. Houssaye, held slightly different views.**

## NEWS

**Iraqi fighter shot down by US jet**

An American warplane shot down an Iraqi MiG fighter after what Bush administration officials described as a grave challenge to an air exclusion zone over southern Iraq.

The MiG was attacked after its pilot ignored an order from a pair of US F16 combat aircraft to retreat north of the 32nd parallel, the boundary marking the "no-fly" zone. One air-to-air missile was fired and the plane was hit; another Iraqi jet escaped to the north.

Page 1

**Tories plan rented homes boost**

John Major's policy-makers are working on reforms to create a new generation of private landlords as part of a strategy to make more homes readily available near areas with jobs. Tax incentives for institutions that build or buy property to rent are under consideration.

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**Gloomy outlook**

More people have had a bad year in 1992 than a good one, particularly the married, middle aged, unemployed and those who live in London and the South East. A much smaller number expect a good year in 1993 than in previous Decembers.

Page 1

**Hunting for bargains**

Bargain hunters will throng shopping centres around Britain today as many department stores begin sales that offer a last hope of making up for a disastrous year for retailers. Traffic jams are also expected on many main roads as people return home after Christmas.

Page 1

**Abandoning barriers**

As the year ends, small bands of businessmen are lighting a chain of beacons across Europe to mark the end of a six-year bonfire of the boundaries and to welcome the easier movement of goods within the EC.

Page 5

**Captain murdered**

The body of a British sea captain, murdered by pirates in the South China Sea has been flown home for burial after Christmas. Captain John Bashforth, 45, was shot in the head after refusing to hand over money.

Page 4

**Bosnian gesture**

A United Nations official says he is hopeful that 1,500 people could be evacuated from Sarajevo as a goodwill gesture. The Bosnian government's has dis-

Page 7

**Walking on the wild side**

Strange cat-like creatures that have been spotted all over Britain from the Peak District to Bodmin Moor in Cornwall are not visions induced by too much festive sherry, according to zoologists. They say that the animals, which have been widely glimpsed over the past 12 months, are probably pumas and lynxes that have escaped from captivity.

Page 4

**Pressure on Bush**

Lawrence Walsh, the special Iran-Contra prosecutor, is planning to issue a subpoena to force President Bush to hand over all the private notes he made in 1986 about the illegal arms-for-hostage deal.

Page 7

**Police have launched a murder enquiry**

after the partially clothed body of Johanna Young, 14, was found in a pit near Watton, Norfolk.

Page 3

**On the road**

Robert Hamilton-Jones, the first British athlete to be banned for life for failing to provide a specimen for a drugs test, threw down a challenge to athletics authorities by competing in a road race in Cardiff.

Page 16

**Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheep rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.**

For the latest regional weather forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 600 followed by the appropriate code.

**London & SE traffic, roadworks**  
C. London (within M. & S Circ.) 731  
M-ways/roads M4-M1 732  
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T 733  
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25 734  
M-ways/roads M25-M4 735  
M25 London Orbital only 736

**National traffic and roadworks**  
National motorways 737

**West Country** 738

**Wales** 739

**Midlands** 740

**East Anglia** 741

**North-West England** 742

**North-east England** 743

**Scotland** 744

**Northern Ireland** 745

**AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheep rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.**

\* Cheaper rates are taken available.

**ACROSS**

1 Overcharges men on the board (5).

4 Inapt code-breaker's bluff (9).

9 Stake one pound — one! — on a rider (9).

10 Enabled a fellow to discover a fabulous underground stream (5).

11 Property in Oriental country (6).

12 Safeguard the small change to save for the future (8).

14 Keep fit and hang on (10).

16 Others take some relaxation (4).

19 Drugs an animal will swallow quietly (4).

20 He'll whoop it up — race or belt off (10).

22 Practice drill (8).

23 Counter work attitude (6).

**DOWN**

1 Checked about a newspaper leader (9).

2 Over-firm from the very beginning (5).

3 Moving things if well-written (8).

4 Let fall many a tear (4).

5 Top man not favouring a person going fishing (10).

6 Refinement of language (6).

7 In winter men think of exequies (9).

8 Winning without effort at first — it's all relative (5).

13 The cut includes military personnel, quite a number (10).

15 Show with material to take exception to (9).

17 Rock teacher — an awful worrier (9).

18 Offer pals poor exchange (8).

21 Stop for a drink (6).

22 Doctors take 22 ac up at this place (5).

24 Anything whatever can be made tough (5).

25 Writers making pounds (4).

PARKER  
DUOFOLD

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,111 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker.

Concise Crossword, page 28



Deep freeze: a solitary figure stepping out for a walk on the ice at Loch Morlich in Aviemore as the sun begins to rise

**Business awards**

Who did the outstanding deal of 1992? Who made the biggest blunders? *The Times* hands out the prizes.

**Concern for the aged**

The British Medical Association

is concerned that elderly people

may find it more difficult to obtain specialised hospital treatment

as a result of the package of

reforms in the National Health Service.

**Ayodhya purchase**

The Indian government has

decided to buy the site of the

mosque in Ayodhya, destroyed

by militant Hindus earlier this

month, and to build a mosque

and a Hindu temple there.

A government statement said

that its aim was "to ensure that the

balance of both [Hindu and Muslim] communities is maintained".

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**When is rape not rape?**

"He dragged me over to the fireplace and picked up a heavy brass poker and repeatedly hit me over the head with it." When a man posing as a priest assaulted a woman in Edinburgh she was not only the victim of a particularly vicious crime. What has shocked the public is that her attacker's life sentence was reduced to six years.

**Share parks**

There is more to being a shareholder than cashing the dividend cheque and turning up for tea and biscuits at the annual meeting.

**Score draw**

Gérard Depardieu portrays French court composer Marin Marais in *Tous les Matins du Monde*. But why do such musical cinebiographies almost always resort to stereotype?

**Last orders**

Kentish Town's Town & Country Club has been given notice to quit. Where will discerning rock fans now turn?

**Beware low archness**

Lynne Truss finds a television biography of Enid Blyton high on whimsy and low on analysis.

**More rats, anyone?**

The various casts of English National Ballet's production of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* are reviewed on the South Bank.

**Face to face**

To the world of fashion there is little room for logic. This is a world where time has little meaning, and no one ever looks back — except for inspiration. So instead of a painful post-mortem of 1992, influential image-makers have been rounded up by Iain R. Webb and asked for their predictions for the new year.

**Alan "Phuff" Freeman**

Best known for the schoolboy character Cardew the Cad that he created in the 1940s, Cardew Robinson, who died yesterday, was a ganging fellow who always managed to retain his popularity.

**Some of the homeless, certainly, want nothing more than to enter society's mainstream. But others are far from being downtrodden victims or desperate waifs. Such sentimental views of the homeless ignore what is a central fact: life on the street is more free than life in an institution.**

**It can also bring with it a sense of family that the homeless find it hard to obtain elsewhere.**

## TV LIST

The excellent BBC2 institution of the bank holiday archive night continues with a tribute to a rival channel, Granada. It should be a diverting four hours. *Granada Land*, BBC2, 8pm.

Page 27

**Jailhouse rocked**

The aim of [prison] reform should not be uniform privatisation but a healthy mixed economy in which private and public sector both play a part and competition ekes out stagnation.

Page 11

**Foxed by argument**

Neutrals observing will support that other honourable old English tradition of shouting for the underdog — and wish the old fox a good run for his money. Run, Reynard, run...

Page 11

**MATTHEW PARRIS**

This is my first Christmas eve spent at an abandoned sulphur mine 17,000ft high in a remote corner of southern Bolivia. We are looking for a piece of scrap steel which might hang the offside front spring of a clapped-out Land-Rover back onto the chassis. I only feel exhilarated, for I have just discovered my eighth wonder of the world.

Page 10

**BERNARD LEVIN**

I do not believe that more than a tenth of the libel plaintiffs the courts deal with have any justification whatever, and most of the tenth could and should have been settled over a cup of tea with a mild apology and a handshake. Moreover, the British libel laws (and usages) are so grotesquely perverted that thimbleiggers from all over the world have been finding or inventing a connection, however obviously fraudulent, with a case in Britain.

Page 10

Readers are concerned by a relaxation in regulations on the treatment of animals in transit and by the future of the Crown...

Page 11

Some of the homeless, certainly, want nothing more than to enter society's mainstream. But others are far from being downtrodden victims or desperate waifs. Such sentimental views of the homeless ignore what is a central fact: life on the street is more free than life in an institution.

The Sunday Telegraph

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**RACING 20-21**

Kondrat celebrates after victory on The Fellow

**BUSINESS 26-28**

The alternative business awards of 1992

**ARTS 23-24**

Gerard Depardieu continuing a film tradition

Television and radio Page 27

# THE TIMES

2

MONDAY DECEMBER 28 1992



Making waves: The crew of Amazon lead the fleet out of Sydney at the start of the 630-mile race to Hobart. Amazon was in second place yesterday, 20 miles behind New Zealand Endeavour

## Smith's toe only concern

By PETER BALL

**A**PART from a delay for the northern contingent, who found even limited air traffic did not prevent their flight from Manchester being put back half an hour, there were no last-minute problems as the England touring party reported to their Gatwick hotel last night in preparation for today's flight to Delhi.

Although the Indian board moved the venue of the match against their President's XI from Kanpur, where there was serious rioting, to Lucknow, doubts about the tour in the wake of disturbances have been put aside. The only fitness concern was Robin Smith, who had been hit on the toe in net practice at Lillesthal. Fears he had broken his toe proved unfounded. "He walked into the hotel OK anyway," Keith Fletcher, the manager, said. With three Test matches and six one-day internationals on the ten-week Indian leg of the tour, followed by a Test and two one-day internationals in Sri Lanka, the trip will try stamina as much as ability.

The players have five days to acclimate before beginning with a three-day match against Delhi in Faridabad. The first batch of three one-day internationals, in Ahmedabad, Jaipur and Chandigarh, begins on January 21.

Hick's task, page 17

**Manchester United confident of achieving ambition without risking Robson**

## Ferguson relishing title challenge

By STUART JONES  
AND IAN ROSS

**A**Lекс Ferguson, the manager of Manchester United, yesterday suggested that the final obstacle blocking his club's path to a first league championship in 25 years had been removed: United were, at long last, learning to live without Bryan Robson.

Over the past decade, successive managers of United – and at least one manager of England – have used the absence of Robson as an excuse for inconsistency and poor performances. Ferguson, whose side faces Coventry City at Old Trafford today after moving into third place in the Premier League on Saturday with a 3-3 draw against Sheffield Wednesday, is now confident that United can not only survive, but also prosper without their inspirational captain.

"Bryan will obviously still have an important part to play in the second half of the season, but I do not now need

to rush him back after injury," Ferguson said yesterday. "Against Wednesday, we had a number of players who performed superbly in midfield, particularly Brian McClair; he was outstanding. Because of this, I can see no point at all in putting pressure on Bryan." Robson was not considered for the game today because of a groin injury.

Today marks the start of the second half of the Premier League programme, and any of the top 11 teams can still claim to have a chance of the championship. Ferguson knows this is the day United can seize the initiative. Having seen United recover from a three-goal deficit in the final 22 minutes on Saturday, he is unlikely to tamper with his starting line-up.

Coventry's form since the arrival from Newcastle United of Mick Quinn, 30, has been remarkable: they are now seven after denting Aston Villa's championship hopes with a 3-0 win on Saturday. Quinn's two goals against

**PREMIER LEAGUE**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norwich	21	12	4	6	34	34	40
Blackburn	21	10	7	4	33	18	37
Man Utd.	21	9	6	6	42	25	37
Aston Villa	21	9	5	7	31	34	36
Leeds	21	7	12	2	22	22	35
Coventry	21	8	8	5	28	27	32
Arsenal	21	9	4	8	23	21	31
Man City	21	8	5	8	23	23	30
Liverpool	20	8	6	6	24	24	29
Midlesex	21	6	9	6	25	29	27
Tottenham	21	6	8	7	26	26	26
Sheff Wed.	21	5	9	7	25	28	24
Southampton	21	5	10	6	23	27	24
Spurs	21	5	9	7	23	33	23
Crysall Palace	21	5	8	8	23	25	22
Everton	20	5	8	10	33	39	21
Qldham	21	5	7	10	23	33	21
West Ham	21	5	6	10	23	32	20
Wimbledon	20	4	10	6	23	32	19
Nott Forest	20	3	6	11	19	31	16

Villa took his total to ten in six games for his new club. "Coventry are playing exceptionally well at present and they deserve our respect," Ferguson said.

Meanwhile, Leeds United, the Football League champions, are now more concerned with avoiding relegation. They are sixteenth, three

points above a relegation spot, and their visitors today are Norwich City, the leaders of the Premier League.

"Our reversal in fortune is confusing and amazing," Lee Chapman, the Leeds striker, said after the 3-1 defeat by Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park on Saturday. "It is difficult to put your finger on precisely what has gone wrong because we have basically the same team as we had last season."

The players are as concerned as the manager. I think it could be a case of us experiencing the same thing as did Arsenal last season – a dip in domestic form after elimination from the European Cup."

Norwich were eight points clear three weeks ago, but unless they avoid defeat this afternoon, they could lose the place they have held since the end of October.

Journeys to the north have been largely unprofitable for Norwich this season. They won against Oldham Athletic,

but lost twice in Manchester, were beaten heavily by Liverpool, and were humiliated by Blackburn Rovers.

Leeds, for all their feeble away form, have at least resembled champions in their own home. Norwich, without a goal in their last three fixtures, are in their worst sequence of the season. Even if it is extended, though, their leadership promises to be protected by their East Anglian rivals, Ipswich Town. Norwich can be overtaken only if Blackburn become the first team to win at Portman Road this season.

A potentially more consequential fixture completes the programme this evening. Neither Aston Villa, who are the joint favourites for the title with Manchester United, nor Arsenal can readily afford to lose the game which has been selected for live television coverage.

Ron Atkinson, the Villa manager, described their performance at Coventry as "the worst since I've been at the

club. We were hopeless. If we continue to play like that, we won't be title contenders. We'll be relegated."

Arsenal's need to arrest a decline is even more pressing. Since catapulting themselves a dozen places up the table with six successive victories, they have lost almost all the ground they had gained.

The postponement of the game against Oldham at Boundary Park on Saturday gave Graeme Souness, the manager of Liverpool, time to ponder how he should restructure his side after the 5-1 defeat by Coventry City the previous weekend. They take on Manchester City at Anfield today.

**United escape, page 19**

**TITLE BETTING**

2-1: Manchester United. 3-1: Aston Villa. 5-1: Blackburn Rovers. 6-1: Arsenal. 8-1: Liverpool. 10-1: Norwich City. 16-1: Chelsea. 40-1: West Ham.

© Odds supplied by Ladbrokes.

## Wigan given lesson

**W**IGAN, leaders of the Stones Bitter rugby league championship, suffered their heaviest league defeat for 20 years yesterday when they were trounced 41-6 at St Helens. It was also their first away loss in league and cup for 13 months and meant that St Helens moved back level with them at the top of the first division.

To compound Wigan's misfortune, they lost Martin Offiah after ten minutes through injury and had Kelvin

Skerrett sent off in the second half. Offiah faces a month off after dislocating his shoulder and, to make matters worse, Andy Platt and Dean Bell, the captain, have suspected broken hands.

Wigan had opened the scoring with a third-minute try by Bobbie, but St Helens replied with seven tries through Hunt (2), Nickle (2), Joynt, Lyon and Ropati.

Wigan's woes, page 20

## The BLAZER SALE...



LATER THAT NIGHT BERTIE SET OFF AT GREAT SPEED FOR THE BLAZER SALE...

...STARTS MONDAY 28 DECEMBER AT 11AM

## FA owes much to Croker's forward thinking



**DAVID MILLER**

Chief Sports Correspondent

**T**ED Croker, who died on Christmas day aged 68, was a man of his time: businesslike and business-oriented. If he helped, in the latter part of the twentieth century, to pull the Football Association finally free from some of its nineteenth-century attitudes, it is arguable whether or not, as secretary from 1973-89, he always pulled that essentially amateur organisation in the right direction.

As a former professional player with Charlton and Headington (subsequently Oxford), Croker knew the game. From his successful subsequent career with his own engineering company, he brought to the FA the kind of contemporary financial acumen and progressive policies that were urgently required by a body predominantly comprised of Shire-folk and schoolmasters who found it uncomfortable being required to pay the England team manager two or three times their own salaries. Football's expenditure was,

as always since the freezing of wages in 1961, tending to run ahead of income, and Croker necessarily accelerated the trend towards marketing and sponsorship. This inevitably carried criticism and there were occasions when Croker exhibited an uneasy ambivalence in his responsibilities to the so-called show-business end of the game – the senior professional minority – and the vast 40,000-club body of the amateur game.

The difficulty for Croker was the conflicting demand of two spheres playing the same game to the same set of laws but with wholly contrasting motives. While on the one hand, Croker, combining a sharp business sense with an agreeable manner, generated new wealth for the FA, he failed to limit the simulta-

neous growth in greed, violence and indiscipline that were, many would say, a natural consequence of the former.

That charge could, of course, equally be levelled against his predecessor, Dennis Follows, and the then chairman, Dr Andrew Stephen. The escalation of indiscipline had begun in the late Sixties. If Follows, organiser of the World Cup in 1966, had not grasped the nettle of professional football behaviour – so swiftly mirrored all the way to Sunday park football and

the school playground – neither would Croker.

Croker's first important impact epitomised his pragmatism. Having sat on the international selection committee that ended Sir Alf Ramsey's reign and appointed Don Revie – always a move of doubtful wisdom – Croker collaborated with Revie to introduce the England sponsored-kit contract with Admiral: a deal that would boost FA revenue at the exploitation of the public.

The extent to which Croker could become the figurehead of English football was limited by his election, three years after his own appointment, of Professor Sir Harold Thompson as chairman. Thompson, founder of the Amateur Cup-winning Pegasus club, was almost wholly ignorant of professional football but set about being a hands-on chairman, having at the same time an old-fashioned regard for paid employees. Thompson had hugely resented the power base built by Sir Stanley Rous when secretary. His relationship with Croker was occasionally prickly and often inhibiting.

Croker played a key role in the sensitive negotiations with Fifa over England's and Argentina's appearance in the World Cup finals of 1962 at the time of the Falklands conflict. In the fight against the aliments of football, he perhaps did not recognise, in common with fellow administrators, that sport is indivisible from the community: that its survival depends on the tolerance, even the affection, of those who, day by day, have nothing to do with it.

World Cup mascot, Bulldog Bobby. At home and abroad, the FA would find public sympathy draining away with the escalation of hooliganism.

If Croker had brought the modern financial touch, he remained strangely out of date in the belief that football administration was exclusively its own affair. This led him to say, unwisely, that civil law had no place in the game and, worse, to tell Margaret Thatcher, a prime minister unsympathetic to an indiscriminately spendthrift sport, that the game "does not want your hooligans".

Ted Croker was a friendly man who for several years made a characteristically courageous fight against severe illness. In the fight against the aliments of football, he perhaps did not recognise, in common with fellow administrators, that sport is indivisible from the community: that its survival depends on the tolerance, even the affection, of those who, day by day, have nothing to do with it.

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Except Broadgate, Fenchurch Street and Canary Wharf.



ay suffer  
it fate to  
cky rival

Peter Ball assesses the prospects of the England cricket team, which leaves today for the sub-continent

## Hick looks to turn passage to India into Test security

SIXTEEN years ago, Keith Fletcher's previous trip to India in charge of an England team ended in tears. The series was lost, and at the end of a tetchy, unhappy tour, his brief spell as captain was terminated even though he had refused advances to join an unofficial tour of South Africa.

Unless the political situation takes a serious turn for the worse, his first tour as England's new manager, which begins today when the party leaves Gatwick, should have a happier outcome. Whatever the quibbles about Micky Stewart's brand of management, Fletcher has inherited a professional structure, and, in partnership with his county soulmate, Graham Gooch, his quiet but tactically shrewd approach should enhance the team.

India is no bad place for the new regime to begin. Since Fletcher's unhappy experiences, cricket there has changed dramatically.

With a format of only three Tests and six one-day internationals in India, even the structure of the tour is different from the one Fletcher knew. Traditionalists will not welcome the changes, but at least the one-day internationals will produce results, which all too often are at a premium on India's traditionally low, slow pitches, as Fletcher discovered in 1981-2.

The changes have also been reflected on the field. Most people concede that Pakistan are now the strongest team in the world; India are in considerable disarray, as the

scores from South Africa reveal only too clearly, while Sri Lanka, who host the party for the final two weeks, are making quiet progress.

Geoffrey Boycott described India recently as the weakest Test team he'd seen in 28 years. That may be a sweeping statement — one or two New Zealand sides spring to mind — but the performances in South Africa, with even Azharuddin and Tendulkar failing to live up to their rankings, and the bowling attack looking limited, suggest that India will be considerably less testing for England than Pakistan were last summer.

After the long build-up of training sessions at Lillehall,

**'I want to make sure that by the time I come back to England I'm one of the first names to be put down in the side for the summer'**

— Graeme Hick

there is little doubt that Fletcher will be leading the best-prepared team to leave these shores, even though the David Gower theory of net practice — avoid if possible — received further support when Robin Smith injured his toe in the final session.

Certainly, it is hard to see a batting line-up strengthened by the recall of Gatting, and containing Gooch, Smith, Atherton and Stewart, failing to get among the runs.

In other circumstances, the presence of the winter's cause célèbre, Gower, in the press box might have been an

embarrassment to the management. Against a limited attack on generally slow pitches, Graeme Hick may at last score a mass of Test runs. He is certainly going out with that in mind.

"If I'm given the chance, I want to make sure that by the time I come back to England I'm one of the first names to be put down in the side for the summer," he said.

Fletcher will also hope that Neil Fairbrother, who looks happiest when the ball is coming on to the bat, will also establish himself as a Test batsman.

If the England batting looks sound, the questions about the bowling remain. Much will depend on the state of the pitches, still something of an unknown factor, but England's ability to win the Test series will depend on the ability of the side to bowl India out twice.

For possibly the first time in memory, England might have the edge in India — although perhaps not Sri Lanka — in the spin attack. There are no Bedis or Chandrasekars in the Indian line-up, Fletcher remarking that the leg spinner, Kumble, is no Mushtaq either.

The decision, though, to take only Salisbury as net bowler for the early stages of the tour may be regretted, as he could have provided a useful foil for Tunnicliffe and Emburey, who was in Fletcher's 1981-2 team, will need to justify his claim that he is still the best off spinner in the country.

If he does, he and Tunnicliffe could prove the key. His last

Test matches before he went to South Africa did not go well, but the Middlesex bowler is convinced that he has rediscovered his old form during his absence. "In the last few Tests, I didn't do myself any favours," he said, "but not having the pressure of playing in Tests has enabled me to get back my form. I'm bowling with more dip than I had done for a few years.

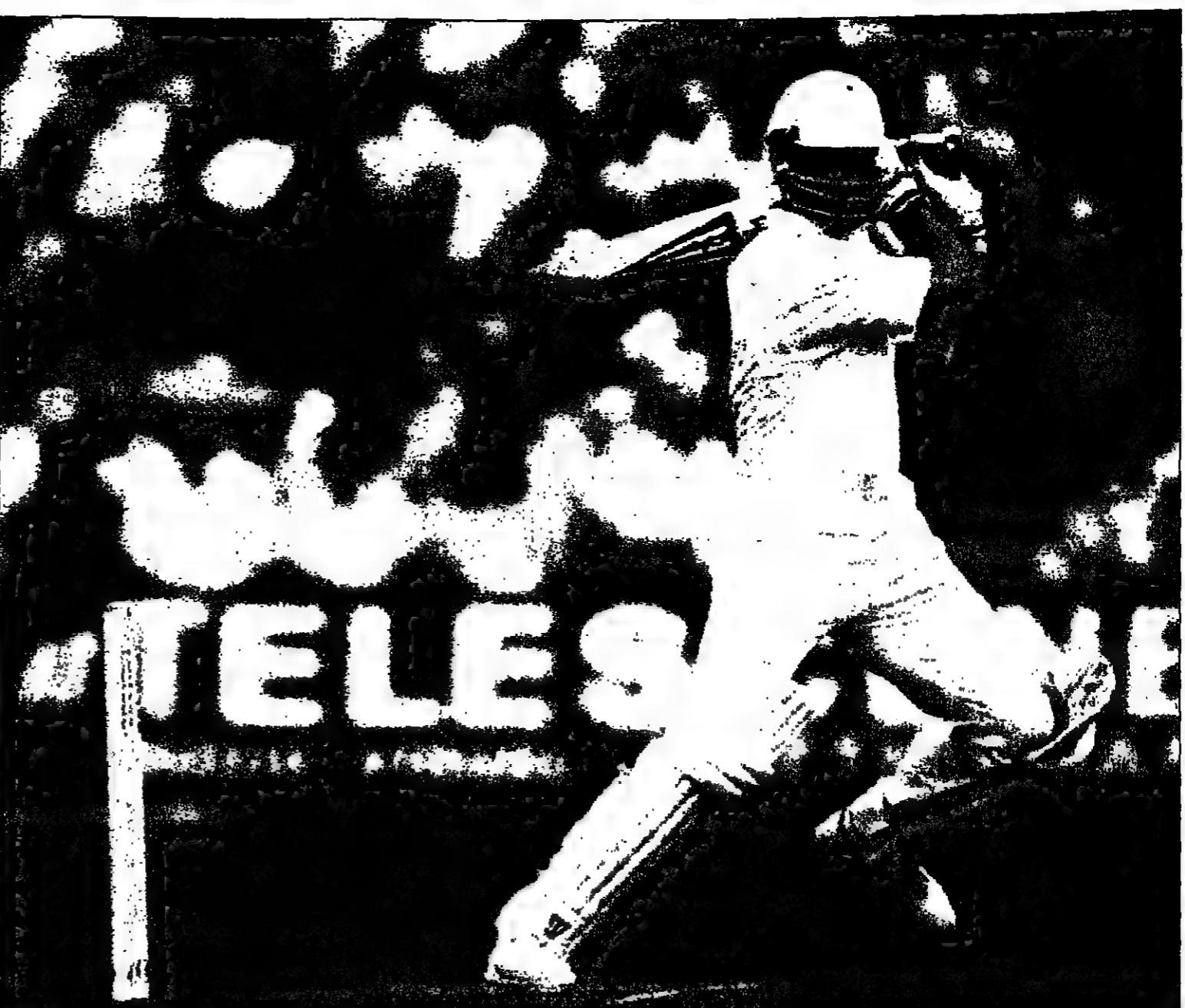
"If you loop it, you get more bounce; it's added more to the variety of my bowling, and I've been bowling a wider line too, so I've been getting more runs.

Indian pitches in recent years have not always lived up (or down) to their image, and it is possible that they will be less of a graveyard for beam bowlers than in the past. With David Lawrence and Angus Fraser both still sadly out of action, that area is the unknown.

That leaves a lot of responsibility on Devon Malcolm. The recall of Jarvis and the blooding of Paul Taylor, a left-arm who swings the ball late, and a lot, towards the side, its detriment at heat and dust and doubts about the umpiring took their toll.

With the amount of travelling involved in the ten-week tour, that is always a threat.

But as the 1984-5 team under Gower proved, it is possible to remain positive, rather than succumb. Let us hope that the religious tensions do not surface to throw up problems even more serious than unpinning decisions or accusations of ball-tampering.



Profit motive: Hick is hoping to make the most of facing a limited attack on generally slow pitches with the England team in India

Test changes — Batting and fielding

M	J	NO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50	CS
M A Atherton	21	99	100	161	34.80	3	9	20
P J DeFreitas	45	4	827	157	12.54	1	1	6
J E Franklin	10	1	100	100	10.00	1	1	1
M W Gatting	69	117	14	2670	207	9	18	51
G A Gooch	99	179	6	7575	323	45.77	17	41
G A Hick	11	11	1	307	105	12.50	1	1
C C Lewis	14	19	1	446	70	34.77	1	1
D E Malcolm	21	89	103	157	9.00	1	1	1
D Ponsford	3	9	1	154	50	50.00	1	1
R A Scott	26	89	14	2645	149	50.83	7	16
A J Stewart	22	40	4	1263	180	41.47	4	8
P C Tunnicliffe	10	13	8	450	14	4.50	1	4

Bowling

O	M	R	W	Avg	BB	5/10m
M A Atherton	61	11	2	222	1	1-80
P J DeFreitas	114	264	3017	52.44	7-70	3-
J E Franklin	257.1	1	5109	38.99	7-76	1-
M W Gatting	125	2	9	52.55	1-14	22-
G A Gooch	125	2	51	72.25	1-14	22-
G A Hick	123	44	508	6.50	4-128	—
P W Jarvis	224.3	48	701	14.00	4-128	—
C C Lewis	216	18	237	12.00	4-112	—
D E Malcolm	137	2073	74	36.12	6-77	4-1
D A Reserve	245	3	63	30.00	1-4	22-
I D Salterbury	70.1	4	12	31.50	3-49	—
P C Tunnicliffe	462.1	148	1091	28.71	7-77	4-1

R J Bailey and J P Taylor have not appeared in Test cricket.

One-day internationals — Batting and fielding

M	J	NO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50	CS
M A Atherton	10	1	325	74	37.23	1	3	3
R J Bailey	10	1	226	75	27.00	1	1	1
M H Emburey	45	10	471	54	14.27	1	1	19
M W Gatting	27	18	860	113	40.93	1	7	12
G A Gooch	5	1	407	101	40.80	1	1	11
G A Hick	21	1	568	67	27.00	1	1	11
C C Lewis	30	1	426	53	33.00	1	1	12
D A Reserve	47	8	118	31	13.00	1	1	16
R A Scott	47	8	157	123	32.80	1	1	16
A J Stewart	47	8	1007	103	32.80	1	1	16
P C Tunnicliffe	10	7	13	53	13.00	1	1	16

I D Salterbury and J P Taylor have not appeared in one-day internationals.

Compiled by Richard Lockwood

Sources: ICC/SB

## Cronje's progress checked by accuracy of Indian spin

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN PORT ELIZABETH

INDIA made slight amendment for a poor batting display with tight spin bowling in the second day of the third Test match here yesterday. South Africa were restricted to 162 for three by the close in reply to India's first innings of 212.

Indian hopes that their batsmen would rediscuss application and form proved wishful thinking as almost everyone apart from Azharuddin, the captain, brought about their own downfall with loose strokes. Overall, it was a display to give considerable encouragement to Graham Gooch's England side as they leave London today for the sub-continent.

South Africa, however, were never allowed to cut loose against a depleted Indian attack, which was without Shastri, who was resting a swollen knee. Kumble and Raju gave little away in lengthy spells on a pitch already helping them to turn the ball.

On a slow day, South Africa

owed much to a second-wicket stand of 117 in 56 overs between Cronje and Hudson. It was the first century stand of the series. They came together when Wessels suffered his first failure this season.

In the second over, before a run was scored, Wessels played a slower ball from Prabhakar on to his boot and it rebounded into his stumps. This brought a testing examination for Cronje, newly promoted to No. 3 and knowing that failure would almost certainly give Cullinan a first cap in the fourth Test in Cape Town in the new year.

Kumble and Raju started rotation stuns after only 12 overs. Hudson was in all sorts of trouble against both slow bowlers and Cronje, without taking any risks, exuded far more confidence. As the partnership developed, the scoring rate went above two an over for the only time when Cronje had turned Kumble for six over square leg.

In the second over after tea the pendulum swung when the ball turned sharply off the wicket.

Cronje rebuffed criticism of South Africa's slow scoring. "That is what Test cricket is about, 150s and big scores," he said. Mike Procter, the South Africa coach, described Cronje's innings as a "courageous knock".

Donald finished with five wickets in a Test match for the first time as South Africa needed a further half-hour first thing to take the last two Indian wickets.

Glamorgan will play five one-day games and one three-day match during a tour to Cape Town from April 2 to 16.

Phil Neale, the former Worcester captain, is set to become only the fifth honorary life member of the club at the county's annual meeting in February.

Melbourne: Centuries by Mark Waugh and their captain, Allan Border, followed by a devastating spell of fast bowling from Steve Hughes, put Australia in clear control of the second Test match against West Indies here yesterday.

At the close of the second day, West Indies were struggling at 62 for three in reply to Australia's first innings total of 395.

After Border (110), and Waugh (112), who put on 204 for the fifth wicket, had combined to ensure a sizeable Australian first-innings total, Hughes demolished the top of the West Indian batting order with a burst of three wickets for 18 runs in eight overs, sending back Haynes, Simmons and Richardson in short order.

Haynes edged a ball into his gloves in Hughes's first over; Simmons then provided a simple catch for David Boon.

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Lurking at silly mid-on and Richardson, the West Indian captain, followed Hughes with his 150th Test wicket when he forced an edged stroke and the wicketkeeper, Ian Healy, dived to take the catch.

The wickets had cost Hughes only five runs, although there was a hint of doubt about Richardson's dismissals, for dust flew under Healy's gloves as he threw himself at the ball, which some thought might not have carried.

This left West Indies reeling at 33 for three, but Brian Lara and Keith Arthurton prevented any further embarrassments, although the fight was far from ideal during the closing overs.

The partnership between Border and Waugh had given the Australian bowlers a solid platform from which to attack. Border's century, only his second Test hundred in over four years and his first on home soil in five years, was greeted warmly by a crowd of around 30,000 at the MCG. They gave him an extended standing ovation after he swept a ball from the off spinner, Carl Hooper, to square leg for his 25th Test century.

Border, 37, has been under pressure in recent weeks and his position in the Test side was being questioned as he battled with both officialdom and a troublesome hamstring injury. His relief at reaching three figures was obvious, for in an uncharacteristically emotional response he thrust both arms in the air several times to acknowledge his own achievement and the applause of the crowd.

He eventually fell to Bishop for 110, failing to offer a shot to the Australian bowlers with a rapid 24, putting up much resistance to the fast bowlers, who were responsible

for the fall of all ten wickets. Courtney Walsh led the way with four for 91 in 39 overs while Ambrose, the most threatening, finished three for 71 and Bishop three for 34.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

D C Boon, S Williams b Wessels 1-10

M A Taylor c Lara b Ambrose 1-11

S R Waugh c Lara b Ambrose 1-12

M E平常 c Simmons b Ambrose 1-12



glory

Premier League front-runners continue to make right impression in exciting draw with Tottenham

## Norwich leading by example as they get back on course

Norwich City ..... 0  
Tottenham Hotspur ..... 0

By DAVID MILLER

WHAT a civil football club is Norwich City, symptomatic of patient, caring Norfolk people. Where else would you find the club chairman out in the car park beforehand, checking there was a place for a visitor on crutches? Where else do you meet such courtesy from the manager, Mike Walker, explaining for the benefit of the media — and thereby the paying public — what was the strategy behind his team changes, and the dropping of Sutch and Beckford?

Norwich Premier League leaders, achieved what they so urgently needed after two successive defeats: a point, and the reassurance that they stand where they do on merit. They go today to face the champions last season, Leeds United, knowing that five times in the past ten years the Christmas leaders have won the title. I hope they do, too.

As goalless draws go this was one of the best. On chances, it might have been 7-5 to Norwich, yet Tottenham departed feeling themselves unlucky not to have won, so appealingly subjective is the game. They had had the ball in the net, a stealthy free kick by Ruddock on the hour while the referee was still entangled in Norwich's defensive wall in the attempt — habitually farcical — to establish the statutory ten-yard retreat.

At that moment, sympathy was with Spurs, who missed the rebuke. It had been differ-

ent on the half-hour, when Austin, judo-style, pulled Fox off the ball by the neck, leaving the unmistakable evidence of gouged turf a yard inside the penalty area. Verdict? A free kick on the flanks.

There might, too, many of us thought, have been another penalty for Norwich five minutes into the second half. Fox, fulfilling his name throughout the match as he ran wild against Tottenham's hen-like full backs, slipped the ball to Sutton. Walker's unexpected replacement for Beckford. Sutton rounded Thorstvedt, unquestionably the man of the match, only to have his left foot caught by Thorstvedt's despairing left arm — not malicefully, but a foul nonetheless — which caused him to lose control.

Thorstvedt's performance was crucial to Spurs' survival. His handling was steady and he made at least four outstanding saves during Norwich's repeated spells of ascendancy. Spurs, languishing in mid-table, are a contradiction. They can be as mean-spirited as the next, given the encouragement of say, Arsenal, and having in their defence that pillar of physical over-commitment, the iron-thighed Ruddock; alternatively, the prospect of a footballing team such as Norwich brings to the fore the skills of Samways, Allen, Barnby (replacing Durie) and Sheringham.

On Saturday we saw a bit of both. Tottenham's midfield quartet of Howells, Samways, Anderson and Allen had the best of the early spell and were close to scoring when Bowen cleared off the line. Barnby's spirited running was pulling Norwich's rearguard — New-

NORWICH CITY: B Gunn; J Cawthon, M Bowen, R Newman, J Wilson, G Meeson, I Prokes, C Sutton, M Robins, R Fox, D Phillips.  
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: E Thorstvedt; D Austin, J Edinburgh, V Samways, G Allen, N Ruddock, O Howells, A Barnby (sub: P Moran), D Anderson, E Sheringham, R Keown; J Martin.

man deputising for the injured Butterworth — out of position.

Now Norwich took charge, recapturing the crisp inter-passing that deserted them against Ipswich, and for the next 50 minutes seemed destined to win. Meeson and Crook wresting midfield control, Fox and Phillips running like the wind on the flanks. Midway through the second half, Ruddock revived Spurs, after his disallowed free kick. Setting Allen free on the right, Ruddock kept going on a run towards the far post, and was there to meet Allen's away-swinging early centre. Ruddock headed fiercely downwards past Gunn, only to see the ball leap up over the bar.

Samways had two fierce drives that flew close; at the other end, Sutton, Fox and Phillips had shots blocked. It was anybody's match to the final whistle.

"Now we've got a name for playing football," Walker reflected. "Teams come here to stop us. So we have to work at other ways of breaking them down. We have to dig in. We're still learning every match."

He's the sort of manager you would like to play for, so Sutch and Beckford should not mind being dropped, allowing the renewal of the early-season midfield partnership of Crook and Meeson, the latter's bite proving valuable.

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Ahead of the rest: Sutton climbs highest to win the ball for Norwich City at Carrow Road on Saturday

## Late rally fails to satisfy Ferguson

Sheffield Wednesday ..... 3  
Manchester United ..... 3

By NICHOLAS HARLING

IT SAYS much for the parsimonious tendencies peculiar to Scots that the first emotion expressed by Alex Ferguson after Saturday's game at Hillsborough should be one of disappointment. When most managers would have shouted their relief from the rooftops of Sheffield at gaining a point where none seemed plausible, Manchester United's was feeling frustrated.

United's spectacular comeback in the space of 15 minutes from three goals down sealed a glorious match, which was the echo of Boxing day past. Yet Ferguson felt United should have gone on to win after Cantona struck the equaliser six minutes from time. "I thought we could have finished it off," he said.

Sheffield took a 2-0 lead in six minutes through Hirst's low drive after Ince's hashed clearance and Bright's short-range stab after Hirst had nodded back Waddle's cross.

Waddle's first-half performance had been magnificent.

## Highbury left hungry by Ipswich's starvation diet

Arsenal ..... 0  
Ipswich Town ..... 0

By KAREN PRICE

TAKE a side which has forgotten how to score, add one which makes precious little effort to remove the fitness and sinner in a frenetic atmosphere. It is a recipe for undiluted frustration, served before a Highbury crowd hungry for a Boxing day treat.

Arsenal, at least, did their muscular best, attacking almost ceaselessly as Ipswich retreated before them. Their best, though, is just not good enough to win games these

Giggs, United's more covered winger, failed to last the match and was substituted after Sharpe had provided the right-wing cross from which McClaren headed United's first goal after 67 minutes. "Once we got a sniff, we went for it," Ferguson said, and so United did, with McClaren heading their second from a left-wing cross by Sharpe. From the same flank Sharpe's next cross found Cantona sliding in to connect at the second attempt, for the equaliser.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: G Woods, R Newman, N Wetherell, G Palmer, V Anderson, P Smith, D Wilson (sub: J Harries), C Wedderburn, D Hirst, M Bright, J Stewart, D Ince, S Bright, L Sharpe, G Palmer, E Cantona, P Ince, C McLean, M Hughes, R Waddle (sub: A Kanchev). Referee: A N Brown.

days: one goal in six matches represents emergency rations for arguably the Premier League's most potent strike force.

"We created a lot of very good chances but could not finish them off," George Graham, the Arsenal manager, said. True enough, but unless Graham is prepared to alter the ingredients, Arsenal can expect to be starved of their third title in five years.

Anders Limpar, perhaps the one Arsenal player with the pace and trickery to unnerve confident and combative defenders, was given just 14 minutes to pick the locks Wark and company had

fixed on fortress Ipswich. Sadly, but predictably, he failed. By the time he was introduced, John Lyall's team, beaten only twice in 26 games this season, was entrenched in its siege mentality.

Ipswich simply left Kiwomya to plough a lone furrow up front and invited Arsenal to break them down. Inordinate delays at every free kick and throw-in merely added to the home supporters' sense of injustice.

"If everybody starts playing that way we are going to have a lot of boring games," Graham said. "I think these teams realise they are not going to win the champion-

ship, but if you pack the defence you can get some success."

Arsenal hardly helped themselves, too often relying on Campbell's physique or the high ball to Smith. They looked more dangerous when Flatts or Wright ran at the defence, and might have scored four times within a hectic five-minute spell around the half-hour mark.

The best chances fell to

Campbell, who dragged his shot wide of the far post, and Smith, who headed over Bakker's crossbar with the goalkeeper stranded. Wright, having burst into space, then watched disbelievingly as his

shot beat Baker and rebounded bizarrely, to safety off the inside of a post.

Baker perhaps deserved his good fortune. His acrobatic leap to palm away Winterburn's long-range effort was memorable; his instinctive save from Bould's point-blank volley, early in the second half, remarkable. Ipswich then ran down the clock. And to think Arsenal used to be accused of killing matches.

ARSENAL: D Seaman; P Lyons, J Winterburn, D Hirst, B Bould, J Langton, J Campbell, A Limpricht, M Flatts, J Wright, N Smith, G Palmer (sub: A Limpricht, M Flatts); IPSWICH TOWN: C Baker; G Johnson, N Thompson, M Stockwell, J Walk, D Bould, G Kiwomya, P Godwin (sub: B Gantzenbeek), S Whiston (sub: P Whelan); J Dozzell, C Kewenna. Referee: F Milward.

Shearer raises Blackburn to second place

ALAN Shearer reduced Norwich City's lead in the Premier League to three points with two more goals in a 3-1 victory over Leeds United, the champions at Ewood Park on Saturday. The result moved Blackburn ahead of Aston Villa into second place. Jason Wilcox was the other Blackburn marksman in the 3-1 win. Gary McAllister replied for a Leeds side now languishing in the lower reaches of the table.

Leeds conceded two goals when their offside trap fell apart and finished well beaten as Shearer took his season's haul to 22.

A near-capacity crowd of

close on 20,000 saw Blackburn go ahead in the eighth minute. David May's long ball went to Wilcox and he galloped away to shoot past John Lukic. The equaliser came, however, in the 38th minute. Colin Hendry had leaped heavily on Lee Chapman

and McAllister crashed his free kick past Mimms.

The opening half had run a

minute into injury time when Shearer bagged his first. The offside rule failed and off went Wilcox to pick up a long free kick and deliver it into Shearer's stride at the far post.

Even though Shearer appeared to be limping after the break, it did not prevent him from completing Leeds' misery. Wilcox left Stretford in his wake and his 59th minute

cross allowed the striker to pounce.

The decline of Leeds United is likely to precipitate the departure of McAllister, the club captain. McAllister, who celebrated his 28th birthday at the weekend, will be offered the chance to join Paris St Germain when his present contract expires at the end of the season.

□ Brian Doyle, the former Manchester City and Stoke City player, has died, aged 62.

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## Everton's generosity gives too much away

Everton ..... 2  
Middlesbrough ..... 2

By IAN ROSS

HOWARD Kendall, the Everton manager, has suggested that the line between success and failure was at its narrowest at Goodison Park. On Saturday, the Merseyside club's supporters must have left wondering if he was not right on the mark.

Kendall's comments should be regarded as nothing more than a reaffirmation of faith in a side that continues to disappoint. Working within the confines of a seemingly inflexible financial framework, Kendall has constructed a team which, while unlikely to claim honours, should at least be capable of treading water until an opportunity for squad strengthening arises. But, sadly, too many of Everton's players are falling short of required standards.

On Saturday, for long periods, their supporters must have felt like a child whose most cherished Christmas present lay inactive for want of batteries, such was Everton's failure to add a decisive flourish to promising moves.

If Everton's problem was creating chances, Middlesbrough's was accepting them. During an afternoon when the injured Keown's absence was often exploited, they missed six excellent openings.

While Rideout, a journeyman footballer, could hardly claim parity with his club's more famous centre forwards, Everton were indebted to his ability to pursue lost causes successfully. Rideout headed his side in front shortly after the interval, but all too predictably, it was to signal a lapse in Everton's concentration which was punished by Hignett just two minutes later.

Beardsley's penalty in the 66th minute, awarded after he had been fouled by Whyte, should have ended Middlesbrough's resistance, but Everton are often uncommonly generous in a game's final ten minutes which made Hignett's second equaliser shortly before the end slightly less surprising than it should have been.

EVERTON: N Southall, J Sinden (sub: P Duncanson), D Unsworth, B Horne, D Watson, G Atwell, R Wartacha, W Kenney, J Rossiter, S Pearce, C Farina, J Phillips, N Moran, D Whyte, J Pollock (sub: W Falconer), J Hendry, A Pease, P Wilkinson, C Higham, T Wright. Referee: R Groves.

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Shearer: 22 goals

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# Mighty Mogul to underline Champion Hurdle claim

**MIGHTY** Mogul, joint favourite for the Champion Hurdle next March, can press his claims by capturing the BonusPrint Christmas Hurdle at Kempton today.

The David Nicholson-trained five-year-old, unbeaten in four outings this term, has gone from strength to strength and was particularly impressive in beating another Champion Hurdle contender.

## MANDARIN

Staunch Friend, at Newbury last time out.

However, Mighty Mogul faces his stiffer test so far with such talented hurdlers as Granville Again, Oh So Risky and Gran Alba in opposition.

Granville Again has been disappointing in two races this campaign. After his defeat by

his elder brother, Moday Street, at Cheltenham in November, he failed to get in a blow against Hallakopus on the same course earlier this month with today's rivals. Oh So Risky and Kribensis, trailing in fourth and fifth respectively.

I expect Granville Again to confirm that form today without spoiling the winning sequence of Mighty Mogul, who looks in such good heart at present.

Nicholson should also be on the mark with Wonder Man, who is happy to complete a treble in the BonusPrint Novices' Chase.

Wonder Man, who like Mighty Mogul, was formerly trained by Jenny Pitman, has trained well to fences and his agile jumping should prove to much for Jimmy Fitzger-

ald's Phil's Pride, who is also chasing a treble after promising victories at Catterick and Market Rasen.

Nick Henderson can also complete a double at this competitive fixture with Tinyland (1.45) and Galaxy High, who missed a tempting Boxing Day engagement here to run in the BonusPrint Handicap Hurdle.

Mark Pipe should domi-

nate proceedings at Chepstow, where I expect the champion trainer to saddle four winners, Claxton Greene (12.25), Lord Relic (12.55), Münnehoma (2.00) and Sea Island (3.05).

Pipe has posed quite a problem by saddling five runners for the Coral Welsh National, but I believe his best hopes lie with Fun For Free and Münnehoma.

Run For Free upset the odds

laid on Münnehoma by making all for a 12-length victory in the Rehearsal Handicap Chase on the Welsh course earlier this month.

However, that was Münnehoma's first run of the season, whereas Run For Free had already won at Haydock.

Münnehoma has since finished second again, failing to hold Captain Dibble, who reappears today, in the SGB

Handicap Chase at Ascot. Pipe's talented nine-year-old spoilt his chance by continually jumping to the left and will be much more at home on today's left-handed track. He is also 4lb better off with Captain Dibble for that two-and-a-half length benefit.

At Wetherby, Waterloo Boy can confirm his Exeter supremacy over Kataibah in the Castleford Chase.

## Osborne has four winners

JAMIE Osborne completed the first four-timer of his career when partnering Djebel Prince, Beauchamp Express, Stirrup Cup and Stormhead to victory at Newbury Abbot on Boxing Day.

After an inauspicious start when falling on Prime Display, odds on for the opening novices' chase, Osborne rode the winners of the last four races, two each for the trainers Oliver Sherwood and Charles Egerton.

Sherwood's successes were the first since a virus struck his stable last month.

Irish bloodstock company Goffs has withdrawn its sponsorship of the Newbury Sales Super Sprint. But one of the other sponsors, Weatherbys, has increased its support to maintain the race value at £10,000.



Osborne: fine haul

## SATURDAY'S RESULTS

**Kempton Park**  
Going: good to soft

12.45 (2m 10f) 1. Stun Liner (G McCourt). 4-5. STUN LINER (G) (2m 10f) 2. Flicka (D. T. Moore). 3-1. STUN LINER (G) (2m 10f) 3. Flicka (D. T. Moore). Total: £1,90. E1,40. E1,50. E1,50. DF: £3,20. CSF: £3,20.

1.15 (3m 1f) 1. Derby Boy (P Scudamore). 2-1. DERBY BOY (P) (3m 1f) 2. Stun Liner (D. T. Moore). 3-1. STUN LINER (G) (3m 1f) 3. Flicka (D. T. Moore). Total: £1,90. E1,40. E1,50. E1,50. DF: £3,20. CSF: £3,20.

1.35 (2m 10f) 1. PEANUT PET (F) (2m 10f) 2. PEANUT PET (F) (2m 10f) 3. Stun Liner (D. T. Moore). Total: £1,90. E1,40. E1,50. E1,50. DF: £3,20. CSF: £3,20.

1.45 (2m 10f) 1. Djebel Prince (P Scudamore). 2-1. DJEBEL PRINCE (P) (2m 10f) 2. Stun Liner (D. T. Moore). 3-1. STUN LINER (G) (2m 10f) 3. Flicka (D. T. Moore). Total: £1,90. E1,40. E1,50. E1,50. DF: £3,20. CSF: £3,20.

1.50 (2m 10f) 1. TETTENHALL HANDICAP CHASE (2m 10f) 10

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# Welsh trial provides a bonus for selectors

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SELDOM has the holiday stocking been stuffed with so many meaningful fixtures. While Leicester's match against the Barbarians at Welford Road today reminds us of an 83-year-old club tradition, the high profile of international rugby is represented by the A fixture in Dublin between Ireland and Scotland, and the regional fixture at Cardiff Arms Park between East and West Wales.

The Welsh Rugby Union's technical staff perceive a gap between international and club rugby that they seek to fill. Divisional rugby does so in England, district and provincial rugby in Scotland and Ireland, and now Wales have a match based on place of origin or residence, rather than club.

The fixture provides a perfect setting for players to show how much they have developed and, in this instance, to further their case for inclusion in the squad for the five nations' championship. Robert Norster, the Wales team manager, said:

"Our major obligations are to the clubs in our league system and we have to cater for their interests and attempt to raise as much revenue as possible for them." Evans said. Talk of an Anglo-Welsh league or a European provincial championship was premature, he added, nor was it WRU policy.

Be that as it may, the Union hopes to make this afternoon at the Arms Park a worthwhile family outing as well as offering

interest from the Barbarian team at Leicester where further tinkering has taken place in the back division over Christmas. Ian Hunter has influenza and cannot play on the wing so his club colleague at Northampton, Harvey Thorneycroft, replaces him.

Franck Muel, alert to the chance of regaining his place in the French midfield, gives best to a thigh injury so Jean-Baptiste Lafond brings with him, as he did last year, his brother Jean-Marc. Leicester had hoped to field Adel Kardooui at scrum half after three weeks absence with damaged ribs, but family commitments keep him out and Darren Grewcock steps up.

The Barbarians have won 39 of the 73 games played,

against Leicester's 29 and a capacity crowd of some 15,000 will watch to see if Leicester can make up the leeway.

They will welcome back John Wells, their captain, after an absence of six matches recovering from the broken bone in his hand, and a rare appearance by Dean Richards who has found various uneventful ways of missing this game in recent years.

## Scotland put Hogg to the test again

BY ALAN LORIMER

IRELAND and Scotland meet for the first time in an A-designated fixture at Lansdowne Road today. For both countries it will be an essential part of the selection process for the forthcoming national trials and the five nations' championship match between the countries at Murrayfield in a fortnight's time.

The A fixture has evolved from the series of B matches, which, in this context, were for non-capped players only. While the most recent B match resulted in a defeat for Scotland, the Scots nevertheless profited, discovering enough talent to ensure a reasonable standard in the five nations' championship at a time when

Saunders' partners Niall Malone, who has been named in the senior side for the Ireland trial and who is one of two Oxford blues in the Ireland A team. The other is Michael Paton, the Oxford captain, who will lead the Irish team from hooker. Paton, with Gary Halpin and Philip Soden, who played for Ireland B against Scotland B last season, form a powerful front row that will test the Scots' front three.

The Scotland selectors will be watching the back row particularly closely, all three of whom will play for the senior side in the trial, with their main focus, surely on Carl Hogg, who is being groomed as an international No. 8.

There will be close attention, too, paid to Andrew Reed, the Bath lock, who has won rapid promotion since playing for the Scottish Exiles this season, and, behind the scrum, to Tony Stanger. The Hawick wing appeared to lose form in Australia but regained confidence in the McEvans' district championship.

George Hook, the new Fife coaching director, late of London Irish, has banned the

## TODAY'S TEAMS

**AT CARDIFF ARMS PARK**  
EAST WALES: M Rayer (Cardiff); A Hartley (Newport), R Bridgwood (Newport), M Ring (Llanelli), D Williams (Llanelli), J Williams (Pontypool), R Moon (Swansea), C Griffiths (Cardiff), G Jenkins (Swansea), L Morris (Cardiff), D Williams (Cardiff), C Geraint (Llanelli), P Rees (Cardiff), A Cooper (Llanelli), M Budd (Cardiff), S Legge (South Wales), P Williams (Cardiff).  
WALES: J Jones (Llanelli), S Davies (Swansea), M Hall (Cardiff), N Davies (Llanelli), W Proctor (Llanelli), A Davies (Llanelli), D Williams (Llanelli), N Evans (Llanelli), A Thomas (Plymouth), H Williams-Jones (South Wales), G Rees (Cardiff), R Williams (Llanelli), P Arnold (Swansea), R Webster (Swansea), Stuart Davies (Swansea, captain).

**AT WELFORD ROAD**  
LEICESTER: R Law, T Underwood, S Price, I Bell, R Richardson, J Harris, D Green, G Roberts, R Cokerell, D Garkett, J Wells, M Johnson, M Pocock, N Doherty, D Williams.  
BARBARIANS: G Hastings (Walesman and Scotland), J M Lalton (Racing Club), J-B Lafond (Barbarians and France), L Walker (Walesman and Scotland), S Williams (Barbarians and France), C Chisholm (Walesman and Scotland), S Bates (Wales and England), M Lunnell (Moseley and England), J Oliver (Northampton and England), M Scott (Edinburgh Acad).



Run with the ball: Bristol set up at attack at the Memorial Ground in Newport on Saturday, when they recovered from a ten-point deficit to secure victory

## Knibbs keeps nerve in Bristol balancing act

BY DAVID HANDS

THERE is a curious void in the middle of Bristol's season, which derives partly from the game's structure and partly from their own failure. They will go two complete months without a "competitive" fixture before the league motor begins to purr again on February 13.

The next round of Courage championship matches on January 9, is Bristol's rest day, and they are already out of the Pilkington Cup, so it will be quite like old times. Except, of course, that the coaching staff must ensure a lively return in the league —

The Barbarians have won 39 of the 73 games played, against Leicester's 29 and a capacity crowd of some 15,000 will watch to see if Leicester can make up the leeway.

They will welcome back John Wells, their captain,

after an absence of six matches recovering from the broken bone in his hand, and a rare appearance by Dean Richards who has found various uneventful ways of missing this game in recent years.

BY DAVID HANDS

ON about half an hour, this was a good contest at the Arms Park on Saturday. But it ended as pure entertainment — if you were a Cardiff supporter, that is. Once they got the first try under their belt, in the 29th minute, the home team ran away with it.

The match began nicely.

There was a good spirit among the players, and it is not often you can say that about a fixture involving neighbours who insist there is a point to prove between the out-of-towners and the city smoothies.

Both teams were intent on running off the inevitable excesses of the season instead of getting embroiled in fumbling and stubborn mauls.

The match was played with heart-warming exuberance.

While Ford was in fine form

and its hosts — a half-strength team, is in similar condition across the Severn sixth in the Heineken League but so badly affected by injuries that it has seldom dropped into a consistent pattern. But here, Newport took advantage of Bristol's inability to find touch and countered effectively; they also discovered that Bristol's scrum was not all it might have been.

They included some local knowledge in their pack, since Thomas had played for Clifton and Arthur for North Bristol, and had they taken better advantage of some alarming gaps in Bristol's defensive alignment they might have scored more than their two first-half tries.

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## TELEVISION page 24

Enid Blyton was the subject of a dramatised documentary that asked few awkward questions

# How they suffered for the camera

In films, composers are always tormented geniuses. Even Gérard Depardieu cannot resist the cliché, writes Geoff Brown

The world has grown accustomed to Gérard Depardieu stomping through the 15th century as Christopher Columbus, or donning Cyrano de Bergerac's big nose, cloak and plumed hat. But it still comes as a surprise to see France's biggest actor in *Tous les Matins du Monde*, powdered wig cascading down, beauty spot on his right cheek, fingers coaxing beautiful, melancholy music from a viol da gamba. He is impersonating Marin Marais, court musician for Louis XIV and leading light of the French school of bass viol players.

In some ways we should have expected it. Stewart Granger, violin crunched under his chin, assumed Paganini's identity for *The Magic Box* in 1946; forced to start fiddling with a scrawny instrument, he bleated intemperately "How can I get anywhere with a thing like this?" *The Music Lovers* turned Tchaikovsky into Richard Chamberlain, Dr Kildare with a beard. And Mozart, we all know, Mozart: he's the spitting image of Tom Hulce, and the original ugly American.

But when set against cinema's lurid track record in the field, *Tous les Matins du Monde*, directed with cool probing passion by Alain Corneau, still prompts surprise. Until its French release a year ago, Marais and the viol da gamba were largely the preserve of Baroque music performers like Jordi Savall,

who plays the notes Depardieu and others seem to be fingering. And Saint-Colombé, Marais's teacher (and from some angles the film's central character), is so shadowy a figure that historians remain ignorant of his first name and dates.

Yet in Corneau's film, for all the esoteric trappings, the composers depicted are still cut to a familiar pattern. Cinema loves to follow the 19th-century concept of the artist as sufferer, transmuting human tragedy into masterpieces. No movie composer worth his salt writes simply for pleasure and profit; he puts pen to paper devastated by grief, madness, the pangs of love, or the patron's jacobbo.

In *Tous les Matins*, for instance, Saint-Colombé's muse is inseparable from his grief for his late wife, who appears in visions as he sits in a hermit's hut worlds removed from Versailles' glitter. Yet Saint-Colombé's life is a double compared to other celluloid colleagues

In Hollywood follies such as *A Song to Remember*, Chopin, Liszt, Schumann and company become so entangled in affairs of the heart that it is surprising any composing gets done. Especially when the ladies have risqué tongues. "Discontinue that so-called Polonaise jumble you've been playing for days," Merle Oberon's George Sand orders Cornel Wilde's Chopin in *A Song to Remember*. No wonder the poor man, at the end of



Paul Muni (left) as the old music master Professor Elsner, with the young Chopin, played by Cornel Wilde in *A Song To Remember* (Ronald Grant Collection)

the film, spits Technicolor blood onto the piano keys and expires.

If celluloid composers are directed by Ken Russell, their problems breed like rabbits. We expect rampant neuroses and tormented sex lives with Tchaikovsky and Mahler. Russell, however, can detect unrequited lust even in Sir Arnold Bax, portrayed by the director himself in a bizarre film for *The South Bank Show* last month. Russell takes the Romantic concept of art to the edge of lunacy.

Yet in doing so, he is simply echoing the popular imagination, which is always tempted to equate artist with crackpot. There is only a jump in degree, not kind, from the

heroes of Russell's musical biographies to the wholly imaginary classical composers who populated films during the 1940s.

Think of Alexander Hollenius in *Deception*, a master of modern music consumed with jealous love of Bette Davis or Enrique Claudio in 1943's *Phantom of the Opera*, unimbed by a publisher's theft of his Lisztian piano concerto. (Claude Rains' impersonated both.) And who can forget Laird Cregar's George Henry Bone, the Victorian murderer of *Hangover Square*, thundering alone across the piano keys in his "Concerto Macabre" as flames engulf the concert hall?

Since *Tous les Matins* is a

European art movie, it misses the more comical aspects of the genre. Saint-Colombé and Marais speak French, not Hollywoodese. They do not drop names. Their compositions are heard in authentic versions, not whipped into saccharine rhapsodies, top-heavy with strings and a woddy choir.

Other European directors have gone further than Corneau in the pursuit of authenticity. When Jean-Marie Straub made *The Chronicle of Anna Magdalena Bach* in 1967, he wanted no Depardieu or his equivalent as the mighty J.S. Bach. Instead he plonked the wig and ruff on the distinguished harpsichordist Gustav Leonhardt,

renowned for the severity of his concert platform manner.

With Leonhardt and other instrumetalists in position, Straub had no need for mimicking fingers and a synchronised soundtrack: he recorded his musicians directly on the set. Yet even here, artifice crept in: the chronicle itself was a work of fiction by Straub.

Europe, too, has bred its own schmaltz fancies about composers. The tradition derived from stage operettas *Das Dreimäderhaus* in 1916 spun a sentimental vision of old Vienna, with a shy, lovelorn Schubert and happy songs galore. After this roaring success (variously adapted as *Lilac Time* and *Blossom in London on Friday*

*Time*), no composer of pretty tunes was safe.

Johann Strauss's waltzes were flitched for *Waltzes from Vienna*, once filmed by Alfred Hitchcock. Grieg's melodies and love life were pumped into *Song of Norway*, famously filmed with Cinerama flocks and much prancing dancing.

Among all these moonstruck or demonic composers, gabbling in languages not their own, *Tous les Matins du Monde* steers a middle course. A sensible story is told, but ample room is left for the arcane music to cast its spell. Music lovers have much to be grateful for.

• *Tous les Matins du Monde* (12) opens in London on Friday



Rolling Stone Keith Richards, who recently played at the Town & Country Club with the X-Pensive Winos, the band who provide backing for his solo career

## Take a trip to theatreland

• THIS week The Theatre Club offers two very special weekend breaks and the chance to meet one of the most popular stars in the West End.

### LONDON

Meet Phillip Schofield and see Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, at the London Palladium, Monday, January 25.

Following the performance members will have the opportunity, over a glass of wine, to meet Phillip Schofield, star of Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. Tickets for this evening are limited. Tickets are £27.50 which includes top price seat and a glass of wine. Tel 071-413 1412.

Visit the January Sales and enjoy an evening at the theatre, January 8-10.

A special weekend for members to visit the January Sales and enjoy an evening at the theatre. Staying at the four-star Marlborough Hotel in the West End, the weekend starts with a three-course dinner at the hotel. On Saturday you can shop till you drop knowing that at the end of the day your hotel is just a few minutes away. After freshening up at the hotel the choice of show

## THE THEATRE CLUB

yours. We've arranged tickets for Les Misérables, Cats, Five Guys Named Moe and Kiss of the Spider Woman. If you want tickets for another show let us know when you book your weekend (subject to availability). The complete package including dinner on Friday evening, two nights bed and breakfast and top priced tickets for the show of your choice is £99 per person, based on two people sharing a room. Tel: 061-428 2400.

SCARBOROUGH  
Meet Alan Ayckbourn and enjoy a weekend of his comedy at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Round, Scarborough, May 28-30.

Alan Ayckbourn, one of the most prolific and successful playwrights, has presented nearly all his plays in a small theatre in Scarborough, where he is artistic director. Now one of his most popular works, The

Norman Conquest, is returning to Scarborough 20 years after it was first produced there. The production went on to the Greenwich Theatre and the Globe Theatre on Shaftesbury Avenue and starred Penelope Keith, Felicity Kendal and Michael Gambon. The Norman Conquest comprises three interlinked plays, Living Together, Table Manners and Round and Round The Garden, each of which looks at the same sequence of events over one weekend from a different perspective. We've arranged a special weekend in Scarborough to see all three plays and to meet the author.

The cost is £158, which includes two nights dinner, bed and breakfast at the Crown Hotel and top price tickets for all three plays on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon and evening. Tel: 071-387 9673.

TO JOIN  
If you haven't yet joined The Theatre Club, don't delay. Membership costs just £12.50. To join send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, PO Box 3, Owen Road, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 3HH. For more information telephone 071-387 9673.

David Sinclair explains why the Town & Country Club in London is threatened with closure

## London may lose two of its favourites

Mystery surrounds the imminent closure of two of London's best-known rock music venues. The 1,800-capacity Town & Country in Kentish Town — recent host to acts including Keith Richards, Lionel Richie and David Bowie — along with its smaller sister, the T&C2 in Islington, will both close on March 24. That is when the current lease expires. Folgate Estates, owner of the sites of both venues, has informed the clubs' leaseholder, Mick Whelan, that renewal is not an option.

The pitfalls of running a rock venue are many and varied. When one closes, it is usually obvious why. Whether it is in failing to head off opposition from residents' groups — leading to the withdrawal of an entertainment licence by the local authority — or not attracting the right acts to guarantee sufficient box office returns, bad management is often to blame.

This is not the Town & Country's first crisis as a rock music venue. In 1990, when the lease was last up for

renewal, Folgate was keen to turn the venue into offices. It was refused permission by Camden Council which declared the property, built in 1934, to be a Grade 2 listed building. And only last year, the Town & Country was the target of a vociferous campaign mounted by local residents to have its licence curtailed. The dispute was resolved with a compromise arrangement hammered out in the Knightsbridge Crown Court, since when complaints from residents have apparently not been a problem.

Recently voted best venue in Britain for the third year running by New Musical Express readers, the Town & Country is virtually unrivalled, certainly when compared to other halls of a similar size in London. There is a tube station close by and reasonable parking in surrounding streets.

The door staff are tolerably well-mannered, unlike the simian security men who furnish such a hostile reception at other well-known London venues. And once inside, there is

freedom to roam, unlike the numbered seating at Hamermesh Apollo.

Town & Country manager Ollie Smith and booker Alan Robinson are unabashed about operating a policy which excludes bands that attract the "wrong" sort of following. One group was not re-booked when used syringes were found in the toilets after the gig.

Appearances by a certain

sort of rap act have been curtailed after the fans of one such group arrived determined to "steam" their way in through the back doors rather than pay for a ticket. And the riotous Los Angeles-based band Fishbone were deemed welcome after a member of the group hurled a trombone into the crowd so hard that it almost reached the bar.

So, a well-ordered venue, employing more than 30 staff, turning a healthy profit its bars is said to be the largest outlet in Britain for Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, contributing to the local economy and apparently paying its rent on time is to be closed. Why?

Folgate has declined to

make any comment. The company is the property management wing of Murphy's, the organisation better known for digging up London's roads on behalf of the public utilities. It is overseen by John Murphy, an octogenarian thought to be the "wrong" sort of following. One group was not re-booked when used syringes were found in the toilets after the gig.

The other side in the Town & Country affair also has strong Irish roots. Originally a single-screen cinema, the venue became an Irish Dance Hall in 1971 and only started to feature a broad range of contemporary rock acts in 1985 under the guidance of leaseholder Mick Whelan, another figure of considerable influence within the London Irish community.

Although rock venues under threat of closure are always quick to cry wolf in their efforts to mobilise popular support, on this occasion there really does seem little chance of a reprieve. Ollie Smith, who will retain the rights to the club's name, is looking for new sites,

## Glover hands over before she begins

JANE GLOVER's term as artistic director of the Buxton Festival has ended before it ever properly began. The conductor and BBC governor was appointed this summer on a one-year contract to take charge of next July's festival in the Derbyshire spa town. But last week the festival chairman, Bob Huddie, announced that Glover had resigned.

At the time of her appointment, Glover made it clear that she would not continue if her artistic plans could not be achieved. "I am desperately sad that things have not worked out," she said last week. Huddie also announced that Buxton had received a grant of £195,000 from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts towards next year's event.

CARDIFF is paying hommage to one of its most famous sons next month. The centenary of the birth of Ivor Novello is being marked by an exhibition at the St David's Hall of manuscripts, photographs, programmes and memorabilia connected with the

### ARTS BRIEFING

composer of light music. The material, much of it never seen before in public, has been acquired over the years by Lloyds Bank, which has been keeping the home fires burning in the former Novello family residence in Cathedral Road, Cardiff. Meanwhile, on the actual anniversary evening January 15, Siân Phillips will host a gala concert of the master's work with the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra.

Avril jumps ships

BBC Television's new head of music programmes is to be Avril MacRory, the present commissioning editor for music at Channel 4. She takes up the post early in the new year, replacing Dennis Marks who is going to English National Opera as general director. MacRory has been at

Channel 4 since 1988; previously she was with the Irish broadcasting station RTE for nine years. Last chance... ARNOLD RIDLEY's *Ghost Train* shows its age, a pre-Wodehouse period when heroes said "dammit, sir, haven't you any sense of decency?" and villains were

"Rupert D'Alvarez of Barcelona and Otto Schmatz of Hamburg". But Bill Oddie, a troglodyte station-master forever muttering "baint nothing hanging nowhere nothing round here", is good fun, and the spook-puffer itself provides a good melodramatic climax as it screeches past the platform. Last performance at the Lyric, Hammersmith (081-741 2311) is on Saturday.

## BEST MUSICAL EVENING STANDARD AWARDS 1992

"A TRIUMPH... DEEPLY MOVING"

MICHAEL COVENEY, THE OBSERVER

## KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN THE MUSICAL

"A MUSICAL HIT FOR LONDON... a hypnotic anthem to revolution, sexual freedom and old movies."

TIME MAGAZINE

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Ticket/Hotel package: 061 426 0066

## LONDON

**CINDERELLA:** The Royal Ballet's Christmas treat, based on the classic fairy-tale, with music by Prokofiev and choreography by Frederick Ashton. Dancers include Gillian Murphy as the heroine. Nira Neveswell dances the title role tonight with Stuart Craske as her prince.

Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-940 1059/11). Tonight, 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

**TRAVELLING OPERA:** Peter Krebs and his ensemble bring a company direct from the South Bank to the Barbican for versions of *Le Bohème* (set in 1880s Paris) and *Don Pasquale* (with the hero as a modern Tupper fitness freak).

Opera Holland Park, South Bank, London SE1 (071-923 8800). Tonight (Don Pasquale), 7.45pm.

**VISIONS OF MASCOTINNES:** The three of them (the original 1913 version) is the way artists from the mid-19th century up to today have used the male body in art. The choice includes *Millett, Epstein, Pollock and Bacon*. Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-821 3133). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm; Sun, 2-5.30pm; and June 6 closed. Now Year's day.

**ANNE GET YOUR GUITAR:** Irving Berlin's pre-World War II model for a Mission woman but the songs are simply amazing.

Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (071-939 8897). Tues-Sat, 7.30pm; Sun, Sat, Sun, Sun, 2pm. 160seats (closed today).

**ASSASSINS:** Sandman's sharp and successful musical explores the impulse that drives no-hoppers to kill American Presidents.

Dreamer Warehouse, Eastern Street, WC2 (071-938 4407). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 3pm. 105seats (closed New Year's day).

**BARNUM:** Enthralling Christmas treat, with Paul Nicholas wailing the high wire. Bouncy numbers by Cy Coleman and Michael Stewart. Trafalgar Court, Ranelagh, W1 (071-920 8845). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed and Sat, Sun, 4pm. 140seats.

**BILLY Liar:** The Waterhouse Hall success of 1980 enjoyed an audience of 100,000 at the National Theatre (Coatesville), South Bank, SE1 (071-923 2282). Today, 7.30pm, tomorrow, 2.30pm and 7.30pm. 140seats.

**CAROUSEL:** Joanna Ridings and Michael Jayston star in a triumphant new production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's big-band musical.

Barbican, Stree, EC2 (071-638 6889). Sat, Sun, 2pm. 145seats.

**THE CURTAIN CALL:** Elizabeth Hart, Judi Dench and a robbery by the producer, with award-winning Diamond Kent playing both party girls.

Barbican, Stree, EC2 (071-638 6889). Tues, 7.30pm. 7.45pm, Wed, 1.30pm.

**THE DUFFY OF THE GORGON:** Peter Shaffer's latest, bloodthirsty revenge versus forgiveness on a modern Greek island. Deep issues, lit treatment though Judi Dench is powerful.

The Pic, Belgrave Centre, Stree, EC2 (071-938 8891). Today, tomorrow, 7.15pm, 185seats.

**HAY FEVER:** Very funny performances in Coward's excellent comedy.

Albery, St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-887 1118). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, Sun, 3pm. 130seats.

**IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY:** Larrie in the hospital common room; matron in

## TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Heather Aiston

**GEORGE MELLY:** The singer, author and authority on modern art appears with John Chilton's *Feasterville*. Rosetta Scott's, 47 Frith Street, W1 (071-439 0747). Tonight - Jan 2, 8.30pm.

**GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA:** The orchestra under John Watson perform Glenn Miller favourites including *In the Mood*, *Locomotion*, *Jazzmeat*, *Cheesecake*, *Cheesecake*, *Birdland*, *Sax Street*, EC2 (071-638 6881). Tonight, 7.30pm.

## REGIONAL

**STRATFORD-UPON-AVON:** The Royal Shakespeare Company has *The Winter's Tale* in the man house with John Nattress as Leontes, the jealous husband who suspects his wife, Hermione, of infidelity. *King Lear*, Gold and Silver, Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street, (051-708 3763). Tonight, 7.30pm.

## THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kington's assessment of theatre showing in London

**outraged:** doctors humoured. Ray Cooney farce with lots of laughs. *Playhouse*, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-938 4407). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, Sun, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, 2.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 105seats (closed New Year's day).

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## CINEMA GUIDE

Goeff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol \*) on release across the country. Check with cinemas for opening times over the holiday period

**DEATH BECOMES HER (PG):** Meryl Streep and Goldie Hawn tell all to an adult young. Ice-cold black comedy, ultimately swamped by special effects. Director, Brian Helgeland. Starring Goldie Hawn, Meryl Streep, Robert Zemeckis. (071-267 7034)

**EMPIRE (PG):** *Die Hard* meets *Die Harder*. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done. *Die Harder* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

**LOST IN YOKOHAMA:** Farfetched performance by Rosemary Harris in a tale of the Marquis of Granby. *Marquis* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

**MISERY (PG):** Sharon Gless and Bill Peterson in American grand guignol. Horrifyingly giddy production for Stephen King's book. *Misery* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

**OUR SONG:** Peter O'Toole in *Kath* Waterhouse's play about a menopausal mother's liaison with a young woman. Needs to come off us here only the man's side of the story. *Our Song* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

**PINCHY KOBI AND THE SEVEN DUPLES:** The eight black actors of The Posse in a marvelously inventive variation on the *Scrooge* story.

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

## Drama

Starring Michael Caine as Scrooge; Alan Alda, Bob Cattrall, Director, Brian Helgeland. *Scrooge* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

**THE PRINCESS AND THE GOBLIN (U):** Blandy animated edition of George MacDonald's Victorian classic about a sheltered princess combating gobblins. Director, Jozef Gervais. *Princess* (0426 914685). Mezzanine (0426 914683) UCI Whiteleys (071-732 3322).

**PRINCE ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK (PG):** More of the same, with extra crudity and a horrid now-stink of sentimentality. With Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, Director, Christopher Columbus. *Prince* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

**HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK (PG):** More of the same, with extra crudity and a horrid now-stink of sentimentality. With Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, Director, Christopher Columbus. *Home Alone 2* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

**SISTER PRINCESS (PG):** Whoopee! pale meat up to a decade for a gift of laughter and fun. Kenneth Branagh, Judi Dench, Director, Stephen Frears. *Sister* (071-920 8845). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Sun, 4pm. 150seats.

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**HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK (PG):** More of the

## Court of Appeal

**Calculating gains tax on foreign asset****Capecount Trading v Evans**  
Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Mann and Lord Justice Nolan.**Judgment December 15**

Where a company disposed of an asset which was situated in a foreign country and which had been purchased and sold in the currency of that country, the capital gains tax liability had to be measured on differences computed in pounds sterling.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing Capecount Trading's appeal by way of case stated against the decision on January 3, 1991 of Mr R. H. Widdowson, a special commissioner, as to the method of computation of a loss sustained on the disposal of shares in a Canadian company which were purchased and sold for Canadian dollars.

Mr Andrew Park, QC, for the company; Mr Nicholas Warren for the Revenue.

**Lord Justice Nolan** said that the subject matter of the dispute between the parties was a loss which the company sustained

on the disposal of shares in a Canadian company.

It was common ground that the loss qualified for relief in computing the company's liability to corporation tax on its chargeable gains.

Although the purchases and sales of shares which gave rise to the loss were effected for prices in Canadian dollars, the loss had to be translated into sterling for United Kingdom tax purposes.

The question was how the translation should be carried out.

The company said that it should be done by deducting the dollar purchase price from the dollar sale price into sterling at the spot rates prevailing at, respectively, the date of purchase and the date of sale.

And deducting the sterling equivalent of the sale price from the sterling equivalent of the purchase price.

There was a substantial dif-

ference between the results produced by the two methods. If the company was right, the loss amounted to £16,063,632; if the Revenue were right, it was £3,146,683.

Substantially the same question had arisen in *Bentley v Pike* (1981) 53 TC 590 although the issue did not appear to have been fully explored before Mr Justice Vincent.

In contending that Mr Justice Vincent had arrived at the wrong conclusion, Mr Park urged the court to construe the relevant provisions of the Finance Act 1965 in the light of the views expressed by the courts in recent years towards the relationship between sterling at the spot rate prevailing as the date of disposal.

The Revenue said that it should be done by translating the dollar purchase price and the dollar sale price into sterling at the spot rates prevailing at, respectively, the date of purchase and the date of sale.

And deducting the sterling equivalent of the sale price from the sterling equivalent of the purchase price.

His Lordship's preferred reading of the legislation for which the

Revenue had contended, namely that for the purposes of the tax on capital gains foreign currency was not money but was an asset.

Therefore when the company acquired the Canadian shares for Canadian dollars it gave a consideration in money's worth which fell to be valued in sterling terms for the purposes of computing both the gain, if any, on the disposal of the dollars and the cost of acquisition of the shares.

By the same token, when the shares were sold for Canadian dollars, the consideration for United Kingdom tax purposes was not money, but another asset whose value fell to be translated into sterling terms for the purpose of computing the gain or loss on the disposal of the shares.

Putting the matter more broadly, the capital gains tax which formed the basis of the corporation tax on chargeable gain was a tax measured on differences computed in pounds sterling and in no other way.

Was that conclusion inconsistent with the decision in *Pattison v Marine Midland Ltd*? There was

attraction and apparent force in the company's argument that if a trader's UK tax liability was to be determined by first calculating his profits, or losses, in the foreign currency in which he had traded and then converting it into sterling, the same approach should be adopted for capital gains tax purposes.

That argument could not, however, prevail against the specific provisions of the capital gains tax legislation. Moreover, income tax legislation, unlike capital gains tax legislation, was not generally concerned with the measurement of a gain or loss on a single disposal but with a balance at the year end computed on accounting principles.

His Lordship was unable to regard the *Marine Midland* decision as affording a guide to the construction of the capital gains tax provisions which were determinative of the present case.

Lord Justice Staughton gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Mann agreed.

Solicitors: Freshfields; Solicitor to Inland Revenue.

**Regret at time taken to hear extradition challenge****Re Croft and Hagan**

Before Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Pill.

**Judgment December 15**

It could not be argued that paragraph 6(1) of Schedule 1 to the Extradiation Act 1989 meant that a magistrate when asked to commit for trial on the ground of abuse of process as he had when asked to commit for crown court trial.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held rejecting a motion for a writ of habeas corpus and an application for judicial review brought by Susan Hagan and Sally Croft.

Paragraph 6 of Schedule 1 of the Extradiation Act 1989 states: "If when a fugitive criminal is brought before the metropolitan magistrate, the metropolitan magistrate shall hear the case, and have the same jurisdiction and powers, as near as may be, as if the prisoner

were brought before him charged with an indictable offence committed in England or Wales."

Mr Edward Fitzgerald for the applicants; Mr David Page for the United States government.

**LORD JUSTICE ROSE** said the applications arose in relation to a decision of a metropolitan stipendiary magistrate who as long ago as May 15, 1991 on the application of the US government committed the applicants to be extradited.

Although the applicants had since been on bail it was a matter of regret that it had taken 19 months for the case to come before the court. The major part of the delay had been due to the increased burden on the court resulting from the lack of sufficient judges to do the work.

It seemed to his Lordship that unless the Divisional Court could give a swift answer in such a case it was not providing the service it was as near as may be, as if the prisoner

was entitled to expect.

The applicants were formerly members of a religious community founded by Bagwan Shri Rajneesh which in 1980 had established its world headquarters in Antelope, Oregon, renaming the town Rajneeshpuram.

The allegation against the applicants was that they had been parties to a conspiracy in 1985 to murder a federal district attorney.

Mr Fitzgerald had submitted, *inter alia*, that there had been such an abuse of process as to preclude commitment for extradition.

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**Re-applying for legal aid after its revocation****Regina v Liverpool Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate and Another, Ex parte Shacklady****Regina v Clerk to Liverpool City Justices, Ex parte Pender**

Before Lord Justice Beldam and Mr Justice Tudor Evans

**Judgment November 27**

An accused whose grant of legal aid had been revoked for non-payment of contributions could not re-apply for legal aid under regulation 11(1) of the Legal Aid Criminal and Care Proceedings (General) Regulations (SI 1989 No 344) but had to apply under regulation 10 to the court at trial.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing applications for judicial review brought by Andrew Shacklady against a decision of the Mr Jonathan Finestein, Liverpool Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate and the clerk of the Liverpool City Justices

and by Kevin Pender against a decision of the clerk to the Liverpool City Justices refusing them legal aid for representation in proceedings in court.

Mr Stephen Knapp for Shacklady; Mr Paul Epstein for Pender; Mr Ian Burnet for Mr Finestein and the clerk to the justices.

**LORD JUSTICE BELDAM** said that the form and wording of the Legal Aid Act 1988 and the 1989 Regulations was consistent only with a legislative intention that a person who wished to re-apply for legal aid after revocation of a grant of representation had to do so under regulation 10 and could not re-apply under regulation 11(1).

Their Lordships had been pressed by Mr Burnett to consider the administrative nightmare which might ensue if after revocation a person could re-apply to the clerk of the justices who was busily

engaged in trying to enforce payment under Schedule 3 to the Act.

His Lordship would prefer to base any support for his interpretation of the regulations and the Act on the apparently pointless nature of an exercise of determining all over again, and on the basis of the same information, the criteria for the grant of a legal aid and the imposition of a contribution order which the applicant had failed to honour.

While his Lordship leaned heavily against the imposition of additional administrative burdens on those already overburdened, Mr Burnet's argument impeded to Parliament and its draftsmen a sensitivity not always apparent in legislation.

Mr Justice Tudor Evans agreed.

Solicitors: E. Rex Makin &amp; Co, Liverpool; R. M. Brodrick &amp; Co, Liverpool Treasury Solicitor.

**Interview results unreliable****Regina v Marshall**

When a suspect had been interviewed in the presence of a solicitor and had made no admissions, police officers would seldom be justified in re-interviewing him without his solicitor in respect of the same matter, especially where the suspect was on the borderline of sub-normality.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Lloyd, Mr Justice Latham and Mrs Justice Smith) so stated on December 3 in allowing an appeal by Mark Marshall against his conviction in February 1991 at Reading Crown Court (Mr Recorder Roberts) of arson.

**LORD JUSTICE LLOYD** said that the course the second interview had taken was deceptive as the police officers' questions altered rapidly between questions as to some trivial offences of theft on the one hand and questions as to the more serious offence of arson on the other.

There were grave doubts about the reliability of the appellant's confession in the second interview, particularly in view of the fact that his account of the fire did not square with the objective fact.

The purpose and justification of the second interview was not clear and in all the circumstances the appeal would be allowed.

**Whether interview was voluntary****Regina v Geddis**

Whether or not it was right to allow a final interview to be put in evidence when a preceding interview, ruled inadmissible, might have had such an effect upon a person being interviewed that it could no longer be said that the final interview was participated in voluntarily by that person, had inevitably to depend upon the particular circumstances of the case under consideration.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Watkins, Mr Justice Leonard and Mr Justice Alliston) so stated on October 29 in dismissing an appeal by Spencer Geddis against his conviction at Maidstone Crown Court Judge Waite.

Harper v Mander and Germain Ltd

A duckboard was a floor or at least a passage or gangway within the meaning of section 28(1) of the Factories Act 1961 so that it had to be properly maintained and kept free as far as was possible from any substance which was likely to cause a person to slip.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Balcombe, Lord Justice Steyn and Mr Justice Hoffmann) so held on October 22 when allowing the appeal of Mr George Harper, an experienced marble polisher, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Macpherson on May 16, 1991 of his claim for personal injuries resulting from an accident suffered in the course of his employment with Mander and Germain Ltd at their marble processing and polishing factory in south-west London.

**LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE** said that if it was once established that an employee's accident had been caused by an accumulation of slippery paste on the duckboard, his employers were *prima facie* in breach of their statutory duty unless they pleaded and proved that it was not reasonably practicable to keep the duckboard free at all times from a slippery surface.

There were grave doubts about the reliability of the appellant's confession in the second interview, particularly in view of the fact that his account of the fire did not square with the objective fact.

The purpose and justification of the second interview was not clear and in all the circumstances the appeal would be allowed.

QC and a jury for having a firearm or imitation firearm with intent and for robbery.

**LORD JUSTICE WATKINS** said that having looked at both the interviews their Lordships could not see how the argument could be sustained that there had been something said or done by the police to the appellant which made him expect some future favour or which put him in fear and thus in a *frame of mind* which no longer allowed it to be said that he was freely and voluntarily answering questions put to him by the police.There was nothing in the judge's ruling that the second interview was *admissible* about which proper complaint could be made.

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## Law Report December 28 1992

## LAW REPORT 25

## Court of Appeal

**Council not liable over fire in house for homeless**

2: "(2) The houses referred to... are those which comprise at least three storeys."

In respect of the unintentionally homeless not in priority need the 1985 Act provides by section 65: "(4) They shall furnish [her] with advice and such assistance as they consider appropriate in the circumstances in any attempt [she] may make to secure that accommodation becomes available for [her] occupation."

Mr Edwin Glasgow, QC and Mr Harry de Lathouwer for the plaintiff; Mr Maurice Kay, QC and Mr John Rate-Williams for Newham.

LORD GLIDEWELL, giving the judgment of the court, said that in August 1986 the plaintiff was informed by a member of the defendants' staff who concluded that she and her sister were unintentionally homeless but not in priority need.

He referred them to a lodger house in a local housing authority in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Newham London Borough Council from a decision of Mr Desmond Perrett, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge (The Times January 24, 1992) whereby he had held the defendant liable to the plaintiff, Miss Louise Epstein, in damages for injuries she had received in a fire at a let to her.

Section 365 of the Housing Act 1985 provides: "(1) If it appears to the local housing authority that a house in multiple occupation is not provided with such means of escape from fire as the authority consider necessary, the authority may exercise such of their powers ... to require execution of works ... and ... to secure that part of a house not used for human habitation as appear to them most appropriate."

(2) The authority shall so exercise those powers if a house is of such a description or is occupied in such manner as the secretary of state may specify by order.

By virtue of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1985, the Housing (Means of Escape from Fire in Houses in Multiple Occupation) Order SI 1981 No 1576 had effect as if made under section 365(1) of the 1985 Act and provided by article

The effect of a concluded agreement under section 54 was that it should be final and conclusive but that did not mean that the court was not entitled to look to see whether all the ingredients necessary for the formation of a proper contract had been complied with.

Thus capacity, fraud, mistake, and such like matters seemed to his Lordship to be available to a party who sought to challenge the agreement on one or more grounds.

In the sense that the agreement was *res judicata* of the issues which it determined, it was clearly final and conclusive, but that did not mean that the ordinary rules governing the formation of a contract were deemed to have been complied with.

The agreement was accordingly rejected by deleting the figure of group relief so as to accord with what the parties intended, namely to deduct group relief once.

The action was heard in the Queen's Bench Division with an application for judicial review of the decision of the two inspectors of November 9, 1990 to institute proceedings before the general commissioners or the special commissioners, or a request dated November 12, 1990 by the inspector of taxes to the clerk to the general commissioners that he should list for hearing by the general commissioners an application.

Mr David Goldberg, QC and Mr John Walters for the taxpayer; Mr Alan Moses, QC and Mr Laurence Henderson for the Revenue.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that it was the taxpayer's contention that by the combined

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## Hidden perks of holding company shares

SOME shareholders make it a matter of honour to turn up at an annual meeting for the feasting and drinking that follows. Since, these days, they are more likely to be greeted with coffee and biscuits than poached salmon, a new strategy is called for.

A surprising number of listed companies offer discounts and perks to shareholders. Even one share in Iceland Frozen Foods buys £1 off the cost of an average shopping basket. Anyone with 200 shares in Thorntons gets £1 off a box of chocolates — a fiver if you spend more than £20 — and shares in Merrydown Wine will buy a 20 per cent discount on a case of vintage cider or country wine.

Then again, they might choke on their food and drink. Poor summer chocolate sales sent Thorntons' shares sliding from about 200p in March, although they are now back at 185p. Merrydown's shares fell 43p to 255p in September, on fears about competition from cheaper cider brands. The shares are now at 260p. Only Iceland seems to be gunning ahead. The shares stood at 505p in August and had risen to 625p by Christmas.

Sketchley, the dry cleaning and textile rental group, gives 25 per cent discounts for most cleaning services to holders of 1,000 shares. The shares have seen-sawed since the company was brought back from the brink of collapse two years ago and are hovering near 101p.

Then there are the blue chips. Even one share in the Savoy group buys 10 per cent off accommodation at Clarendon's, The Berkeley, The Lygon Arms, The Lancaster in Paris, and The Savoy, where single rooms start at £158. British Airways gives a 10 per cent discount on published fares or 5 per cent off BA holidays to holders of 200 shares.

Five hundred shares in Austin Reed buy 15 per cent off clothing, shoes and sporting goods. Asprey, the Bond Street jeweller, offers a 15 per cent discount on most cash buys by Asprey Card — with a slight catch. Devotees must hold 5,062 shares, currently valued at 285p, setting them back about £1,400.

The list goes on. Buy 1,000 shares in Barratt Developments (cost £970) and the company will knock £500 off every £25,000 on the price of a new or part-exchanged house. Buy 20 shares in the unquoted North Norfolk Railway and receive two second class journeys on the company's five-mile line between Sheringham and Holt in Norfolk.

Trafalgar House offers 15 per cent off selected cruises on the QE2 to holders of 500 shares — current value £420. Ladbrooke Group offers 10 per cent off standard room rates and meals and drinks at Hilton International hotels. Lomrho offers a generous 30 per cent discount on accommodation at the Merville Beach Hotel, Mauritius, reducing the price of a superior single room from £120 to £84. Shareholders are also entitled to 25 per cent on rooms at Metropole hotels in the UK. Eligibility requires 100 shares, currently valued at £70.

One of the most popular perks of all is unlikely to survive the new year. Shareholders of Ranks Hovis McDougall, the milling, baking and groceries group, have for years been turning up at the annual meeting for their sample packs of Mr Kipling cakes and other goodies. Greg Tomkins, of Tomkins, which is digesting RHM after its successful takeover bid, will have no time for such frivolity.

Seymour Pierce Butterfield, 24 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4TY, publishes its 1993 guide to shareholder discounts next month, price £5.

JON ASHWORTH

The departing year has had its ups and downs for investors. Michael Clark monitors them

In the run-up to Black Wednesday last September, and the subsequent devaluation of the pound, it seemed that there would be precious few winners on the London stock market in 1992.

The equity market had been in decline throughout the summer after the brief flurry that marked the Conservatives' general election victory. It was clear from late May that the economists had been wrong and that the economy was still in deep recession.

Analysts were gloomy for much of the year, downgrading profit estimates for all the major companies as the recession continued to take a heavy toll.

Shrewd investors should have followed the old adage to buy at the bottom and sell at the top. But it seemed that, for much of 1992, few investors had spare money to invest in the equity market. Turnover for much of the year was depressingly low and it was almost inevitable that another round of job losses would follow.

Dividend payments were also no longer taken for granted and, at one stage, it was estimated that one in ten of the top 250 companies was contemplating a cut in payments to shareholders.

Some brokers were forecasting a drop in the FT-SE 100 index to about 2,200. As it was, the index bottomed out at 2,281 in August, before recovering rapidly before Black Wednesday to close on Christmas eve on a high note at 2,827, a rise on the year of 13.5 per cent.

Despite the difficulties of 1992, there were still a few healthy gains and investors were left in no doubt about the outright winners. One was Tzong — Who did I hear you say? — which soared 305 per cent to 405p.

Tzong, a former tin dredger, acquired Pan Malaysian Pools, the lottery company, in 1991, and also manages the National Stud Farm.

However, its victory is hollow. The few shares available have been dealt on a matched bargain basis since April.

Investors had more of an opportunity to make a killing in second-placed TVS Entertainment, despite the fact the company loses its independent television broadcasting franchise this week.

The past few years have been a tale of woe for TVS shareholders following its acquisition of MTM, the American production company, which subsequently made heavy losses.

It looked as if their salvation was at hand, however, in the shape of the Rev Pat Robertson, the television evangelist, and his company, International Television Entertainment, which decided to make an offer of 23p a share for TVS, lifting the price 328 per cent to 30p.

Unfortunately, many shareholders were already sitting on a substantial trading loss, having seen the share price

The share price continued to lose ground as British Aerospace plunged into the red, hitting an all-time low of 100p. The end of the cold war saw western governments cutting back on defence spending.

Civilian airlines were going bust, hit hard by the worldwide economic stamp that forced North West Airlines to cancel a major contract for the European Airbus.

Rover is the nearest thing to a success story for British Aerospace, but, like all car

makers, it has found the going tough.

Thousands of jobs have been shed and more are likely to go. BAE, no doubt, will be hoping for a better 1993. The electronics team at Hensel Crosthwaite, the stockbroker, has tipped it as its share of the year.

British Aerospace's troubles half crystallised at the end of 1991, with the group asking shareholders to stump up £432 million as part of a rescue package that was quickly followed by a profits warning and the departure of Professor Sir Roland Smith as chairman.

City fund managers gave the issue a wide berth as the share price went into freefall.

Not surprisingly, most of the issue was left in the hands of the underwriters. But the group's difficulties did not end there.

The share price continued to lose ground as British Aerospace plunged into the red, hitting an all-time low of 100p. The end of the cold war saw western governments cutting back on defence spending.

Boardroom rows resulting in the departure of Sam Smith, the chairman, left shareholders of Bimec Industries nursing hefty losses at the year end.

Trafalgar House, the construction, property and shipping group that owns the Ritz hotel and the Cunard shipping line, will be glad to see

ours in this section. Nor, for the first time, was keeping it in the family sufficient defence against the demands of increasingly desperate bankers — as Paul Reichmann and Gerald Ronson both discovered, although both are still involved in running the companies the banks now own. But it was the public companies that saw the most dramatic departures.

Having clung to power for more than 18 months since his infamous remarks, Gerald Alan Bond, who was released from an Australian prison in August after serving 91 days of a two-and-a-half-year sentence for dishonesty, Mr Bond now faces a retrial.

**The Bad ...** Peter Clowes, who in February began a ten-year jail sentence after being found guilty of 18 charges of theft and fraud.

**... and the Unresolved.** Having clung to power for

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Roger Parker finally resigned from Ratners in November, his trial only slightly eased by £375,000 — one year's salary.

**Off, too, were Tony Miller**

and Philip Green, from Albert Fisher and Amber Day respec-

Continued from page 28

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**Best Corporate Exit.** A third

year of recession ensured the

fiercest competition for hon-

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heavyweight compensation of

£850,000 and £1.1 million each.

In terms of compensation,

the £1.9 million that Sir Eric

Parker and Sir Nigel Brookes

share for making way at

Trafalgar House will also be

difficult to top.

However, for sheer all-

round impact, our prize goes

to Bob Horton, whose unexpected resignation from the

dual roles of chairman and

chief executive at BP in June

wiped a cool £1.8 billion off

the company's stock market

value.

Perhaps not surprisingly,

Mr Horton's compensation

package has yet to be

disclosed.

**Continued from page 28**

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**BBC1**

7.00 News, regional news and weather (5947428)  
 7.10 Children's BBC beginning with *Horrid Henry*. Puppet series (t) (23/10/93)  
 7.35 *Beaker*, Animated adventures of a regal elephant (t) (9/21/93)  
 8.00 News, regional news and weather (7874886) 8.10 *Cuckooland*. Comedy series from New Zealand (t) (29/11/93) 8.15 *Swamp Thing*. Adventures of a comic strip monster hero (t) (17/23/93)  
 9.00 News, regional news and weather (5975482) 9.05 *Come Midnight Monday*. Episode four (t) (24/11/93) 9.25 *Why Don't You...?* The first of a new series of entertaining ideas for bored youngsters (t) (24/4/93) 10.05 *Playdays* (s) (5/6/93)  
 10.25 Film: *The Phantom Treehouse* (1984). Animated adventures of a talkative boy with a vivid imagination. Directed by Paul Williams (19/09/93)  
 11.35 Film: *One of the Musketeers* (1951) starring Cornel Wilde, Maureen O'Hara and Robert Douglas. Swashbuckling yarn in which four men defend the throne of France from the evil machinations of the ruthless Duke de Lavalle. Directed by Lewis Allen (4/6/51)  
 12.55 Regional News and Weather (6528402)  
 1.00 News with Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Weather (11/03/93)  
 1.05 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (6/5/93) 1.15 *Eldorado* (t). (ceefax) (s) (3/9/93) 1.55 Cartoon. *Alfie St Nick* (7/5/93)  
 2.10 Film: *Star Trek — The Motion Picture* (1979) starring William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy. The first of the big screen spin-offs from the hit television series. After a re-fit the starship Enterprise is put into commission under the command of Captain Kirk to locate and eliminate the unknown force that is destroying Klingon spaceships. Directed by Robert Wise. (Ceefax) (9/7/93)  
 4.15 The Russ Abbot Christmas Show. Comedy sketches. With Lee Dennis, Bella Embrey, Tom Bright, Sherrie Hewson, Lisa Maxwell and Barry Crane (t). (Ceefax) (6/10/93)  
 4.55 *Musical Score* introduced by David Davies (3897799)  
 5.05 News with Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Weather (4/31/92) 5.15 *Regional News and Weather* (s) (8/23/93)  
 5.20 Neighbours (t). (Ceefax) (s) (8/23/93)  
 5.45 Jim'll Fix It. Jimmy Savile playing his Father Christmas role, arranges for a seven-year-old to climb into the ring with the World Wrestling Federation champion, "Rowdy" Piper. Plus film of Jimmy secretly attending a Jimmy Savile Lookalike Party. (Ceefax) (s) (6/27/93)  
 5.50 *Telly Addicta*. A celebrity edition of the television trivu quiz game. With Paula Quirke, Linda Robson, Michael Ball, Keith Barron, Michelle Collins, Rosemary Ford, Geoffrey Hughes and Danny Baker (s) (9/35)  
 7.00 Film: *Twins* (1988) starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito. A box-office hit comedy with Schwarzenegger, a gentle giant, going in search of his twin from whom he was separated at birth after a genetic experiment. When he catches up with the diminutive DeVito, his brother is in all kinds of trouble from both loan sharks and the mob. Directed by Ivan Reitman. (Ceefax) (s) (8/8/93)  
 8.45 News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (5/17/93)



Acrobatic wit: sit-down comedian Jasper Carrott (9.05pm)

9.05 One Jasper Carrott. The comedian in a one-man show from the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane in London. (Ceefax) (s) (4/04/93)  
 9.55 *One Foot in the Grave*. Last year's Christmas edition of the comedy series about one of life's natural pessimists, Victor Meldrew. In this his normally quiet existence of the allotment is interrupted by the arrival of a mysterious, dark-bearded figure. Starring Richard Wilson and Annette Crosbie (t). (Ceefax) (s) (6/21/93)  
 10.45 Match of the Day. Ray Stubbs introduces highlights from two of today's Premier League games. The commentators are Clive Tyldesley and Tony Gibbs (s) (7/9/93)  
 11.55 Film: *Downhill Racer* (1969) starring Robert Redford and Gene Hackman. Drama about a Colorado skier who pursues a lone path in his determination to win gold at the Winter Olympics. Directed by Michael Ritchie (365598) 1.35am Weather (7/22/93)

**VARIATIONS**

**ANGLIA**  
 As London except: 8.25-8.35 Just For Laughs (6/31/93) 8.25 *Film: The Princess and the Pea* (5/28/93) 3.10-3.30 *Carry On, Anne!* (5/24/93)

**CENTRAL**  
 As London except: 2.20pm *Film: Broken Arrow* (4/20/93) 4.05 *Film: Dogteam* — The Movie (5/22/93)

**SAC**

Starts: 7.00 *The Big Breakfast* (6/20/93) 8.00 *You Bet Your Life* (5/27/93) 8.25 *Laurel and Hardy* (5/27/93) 8.30 *Seaside Street* (7/4/91) 10.30 *The Morning Line* (5/23/93)  
 11.00 *Tony Jenkins' Pro-Celebrity Golf Challenge* (6/8/93) 12.30 *Star Gazing* (5/23/93) 1.15 *After Dark* — *Recreational* (5/23/93) 2.20 *Charm* 4 — *Racing* (4/26/93) 3.15 *Film: City Below the Slopes* (5/25/93) 6.30 *Broadway* (4/30/93) 7.00 *Carry On, Anne!* (5/24/93) 7.30 *Coronation Day* (5/15/93) 8.05 *Sports* (6/7/93) 8.30 *News* (49/7451) 8.45 *Arts* — *Dim Tel You* (7/17/93) 8.45 *Cheers* (8/28/93) 10.15 *Hard News* (15/9/93) 11.15 *Film: The Blackboard Jungle* (4/11/92) 10.35 *Music City USA* (5/26/93) 11.35 *Cos*

**RTE 1**  
 Starts: 9.25 *Film: The Ghost of St Michael's* (5/25/93)

**NATION 2**  
 Starts: 7.00 *The Big Breakfast* (6/20/93) 8.00 *You Bet Your Life* (5/27/93) 8.25 *Laurel and Hardy* (5/27/93) 8.30 *Seaside Street* (7/4/91) 10.30 *The Morning Line* (5/23/93)  
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**NATION 3**  
 Starts: 7.00 *The Big Breakfast* (6/20/93) 8.00 *You Bet Your Life* (5/27/93) 8.25 *Laurel and Hardy* (5/27/93) 8.30 *Seaside Street* (7/4/91) 10.30 *The Morning Line* (5/23/93)  
 11.00 *Tony Jenkins' Pro-Celebrity Golf Challenge* (6/8/93) 12.30 *Star Gazing* (5/23/93) 1.15 *After Dark* — *Recreational* (5/23/93) 2.20 *Charm* 4 — *Racing* (4/26/93) 3.15 *Film: City Below the Slopes* (5/25/93) 6.30 *Broadway* (4/30/93) 7.00 *Carry On, Anne!* (5/24/93) 7.30 *Coronation Day* (5/15/93) 8.05 *Sports* (6/7/93) 8.30 *News* (49/7451) 8.45 *Arts* — *Dim Tel You* (7/17/93) 8.45 *Cheers* (8/28/93) 10.15 *Hard News* (15/9/93) 11.15 *Film: The Blackboard Jungle* (4/11/92) 10.35 *Music City USA* (5/26/93) 11.35 *Cos*

**BBC2**

6.45 Film: *Sister Kenny* (1946, blw) starring Rosalind Russell and Alexander Knox. The true story of a young Australian nurse, Elizabeth Kenny, whose pioneering efforts in the treatment of infantile paralysis led her into conflict with the medical authorities.

8.35 Film: *The Gay Divorcee* (1934, bw). Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers' trip through a frothy musical featuring, among others, the Oscar-winning "Continental" and Cole Porter's "Night and Day". Directed by Mark Sandrich (8/7/93)

10.20 *Light of Darkness*. Peter Ustinov introduces a commemoration of the 20 million people killed and the 60 million made homeless by war since 1945. With the London Chamber Orchestra (t). (Ceefax) (s) (4/8/93)

11.10 *Songs of Praise* from Chester Cathedral (t). (Ceefax) (s) (4/8/93)



Conducting lessons in opera: Sir Gerald Evans (11.45am)

11.45 *Gerald Evans Masterclass*. In tribute to the opera singer who died in September, a repeat of his series of masterclasses shown in 1981 beginning with *La Bohème* (5/5/94)

12.45 *Racing from Cheltenham*. Live coverage of the Philip Comes' Novices' Hurdle (12.55), the Final Junior Hurdle (1.25), the Coral Welsh Grand National (2.00) and the Horse Racing Around Cheltenham (2.35). Plus highlights from Leicestershire (20/47/93)

2.50 *The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures*. The first of a series of five daily lectures by Professor Charles Stirling, FRS (5/11/93)

3.30 *The Works*. A book of machines that are designed to work once only, but perfectly (t). (Ceefax) (s) (4/9/93)

4.10 Film: *Yentl* (1983) starring Barbra Streisand and Mandy Patinkin. A remake of the 1930s film of the novel by Mary Antin, *Unter My Old Country*, about a young woman who decides to defy tradition and become a Talmudic scholar. The film marked the directorial debut of Barbra Streisand. (Ceefax) (s) (20/10/93)

5.20 *Life with Eliza*. Edwardian comedy. (Ceefax) (s) (2/15/93)

5.30 *The Hard Nut*. An alternative version of the "Nutcracker" ballet performed by the Mark Morris Dance Group at the Theatre de la Monnaie in Brussels (s) (3/7/93)

8.00-12.00 *Granada Land*.

● CHOICE: The excellent BBC2 institution of the bank holiday archive night continues with a generous tribute to a rival channel. Of all the independent television companies, Granada is probably the one most worth celebrating. There is *Coronation Street*, still pulling in the millions after more than 30 years, the tough journalism of *World in Action* and the polished period drama of *Brigadier Revisited*. From its base in Manchester, Granada has projected the authentic voice of the North, while not forgetting that the ITV network demands programmes of national appeal. It has made popular programmes that are also good programmes. Its achievement is recalled tonight with repeated classics, specially-made documentaries and a novel recreation of *University Challenge*. It promises to be a diverting four hours (1683), beginning with *Coronation Street*. A classic episode from Britain's longest-running soap

8.30 *From the North*. The story of Granada Television. Among those contributing are Jeremy Isaacs, David Plowright and Sir Denis Forman (7/22/93)

9.30 *Pro-Celebrity University*. A special edition introduced by Barber Gascoigne. Current undergraduates pit against each other in a team that includes celebrity graduates Stephen Fry and John Simpson, the BBC's foreign affairs editor (3/16/93)

10.00 *Roll On Four O'Clock*. Colin Welland's witty 1970 play about life in a northern secondary modern school. Starring Clive Styll, Tom O'Connor and Colin Welland (t)

11.00 *Northern Songs*. Archive film of Liverpool and Manchester bands (2/15/93)

11.30 *Fiat Caps and Ferrets*. Clips from Granada classics exposing some of the myths about the North of England (6/23/88)

12.00 Film: *The Man With X-Ray Eyes* (1963) starring Ray Milland. Roger Corman's science fiction drama about a scientist who lives to regret his developing a serum that gives him X-ray vision. (Ceefax) (s) (5/6/93)

12.30 *From the British Isles*. A look at the music of the British Isles (5/2/93)

1.15 *Strife It, Lucy*. The non-stop Michael Banymore with the quiz game show for couples. (Ceefax) (s) (3/9/93)

2.15 Film: *Flash Gordon* (continued) (8/7/93)

2.30 *Strike It, Lucy*. The non-stop Michael Banymore with the quiz game show for couples. (Ceefax) (s) (3/9/93)

3.00 *With You Were Here*. Jim Chalmers reports from Mauritius, Victoria Studi samples the east of Canada. John Carter travels by barge through Burgundy and Andrew Jeffrey, a paraglider, goes camping with his family in the foothills of the Vosges. (Ceefax) (s) (9/4/91)

3.30 *Home and Away* (t). (Ceefax) (s) (8/7/93)

4.00 Film: *Blackbeard's Ghost* (1967) starring Peter Ustinov. A Disney comedy fantasy about an athletics coach who unwittingly conjures up the ghost of a notorious pirate who is delighted with the chance to do the good that will free him from a curse and allow him to rest in peace. Directed by Robert Stevenson (5/14/93)

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7.30 Coronation Street. (Ceefax) (s) (5/15)

8.00 *The Upper Hand*. Patchy comedy series about a male housekeeper and his relationship with his businesswoman boss. Starring Joe McGann, Diana Weston and Honor Blackman (s) (5/4/93)

8.30 Film: *Turn Back the Clock* (1988) starring Connie Sellecca and David Dukes. Thriller about an actress who, after shooting her husband dead, has the chance to reverse the previous 12 months to see if things would have turned out differently. A remake of the 1947 film *Replay* featuring the same cast. Directed by Lamy Elkarn. (Ceefax) (s) (6/7/93)

9.00 *News* (Ceefax) (s) (5/15)

9.30 Coronation Street. (Ceefax) (s) (5/15)

10.00 *The Upper Hand*. Patchy comedy series about a male housekeeper and his relationship with his businesswoman boss. Starring Joe McGann, Diana Weston and Honor Blackman (s) (5/4/93)

10.30 Film: *Edge of the City* (1957, blw) starring Sidney Poitier and John Cassavetes. A powerful drama about a sullen and neurotic army deserter who is beheaded by a New York railroad freight loader. Martin Ritt's first film as director (5/24/93)

11.30 *Film: Edge of the City* (1957, blw) starring Sidney Poitier and John Cassavetes. A powerful drama about a sullen and neurotic army deserter who is beheaded by a New York railroad freight loader. Martin Ritt's first film as director (5/24/93)

12.35 Film: *Terror of Mechagodzilla* (1975). Another in the Japanese-made *Godzilla* series. Directed by Inoshiro Honda. English dialogue (5/8/93). Ends at 2.05

1.00 *Conway Island*.

● CHOICE: The respective classes shifted and the New York Times called it "Sodom by the sea" but from the late 19th century to the 1960s Coney Island provided New Yorkers, particularly the poorer ones, with a flamboyant escape into a fantasy world. This five-mile long spit of land at the foot of Brooklyn may have attracted prostitutes, pickpockets and swindlers, as well as shady businessmen trying to make a quick fortune. But the vast amusement parks with their rollercoasters, simulated disasters and other novelties offered much innocuous pleasure. This documentary is from the team which made the impressive BBC2 series on the American civil war. It concentrates on Coney Island's pre-1914 heyday, still evolving in the period with archive footage, still photographs and first-hand memories (5/11/93)

# BUSINESS

MONDAY DECEMBER 28 1992

WIN OR LOSE

A ROLLER COASTER  
RIDE FOR  
INVESTORS IN 1992

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BEAUMONT

## Billion-dollar man who came in from the cold

**Matthew Bond** chooses his winners for alternative business awards of 1992, a year of stagnation and painful lessons

**R**emember this time a year ago: wrestling with the dilemma of whether to begin in 1992 by forecasting economic recovery in the fifth quarter — or the sixth? Tricky, wasn't it? And what a complete waste of time. A year may have passed, but the economy hardly noticed, its progress apparently frozen in the icy grip of permanent recession.

Just about the only things still rising after this *annus immobiliis* are unemployment, which moves ever closer to 3 million, and a supposedly farsighted stock market, which seems to have been anticipating recovery for much longer than it ever discounted recession. Clearly, there are still people around with money to bet on a tenth-quarter recovery. Or should that be eleventh?

But 1992 was not just a year of going nowhere. There were lessons to be learnt on the way. We know, for instance, that floors, especially those laid on fragile European foundations, are there not to be walked on, but fallen through. We know, too, that interest rates can be both very high and very low within a few weeks, even hours, of the other — and that both are right. How do we know? That nice Norman Lamont told us.

But our prize for Businessman of the Year goes to someone who did not listen to a word Mr Lamont said. Or if he did, George Soros did not believe it. Like all the best ideas, his was brilliant in its simplicity.

In essence, Mr Soros just did not believe that Britain's whose economy was compared ever more frequently with that of the thirties, could have a currency exploring historic highs against the American dollar courtesy of astonishingly high British interest rates. Something had to give. By staking his financial might that it would be the pound that buckled, Hungarian-born Mr Soros and his Quantum fund collected a \$1 billion profit when Mr Lamont eventually bowed to the inevitable in September. Mr Soros also wins PR Triumph of the Year, by giving away \$50 million of his profit to charities working in Yugoslavia and thereby making currency speculation almost acceptable. Runner-up is Peter



Business faces of '92: clockwise from bottom left, Sir John Quinton, Helmut Schlesinger, Gerald Ratner, Lord Spens, John Bryan, Pandora and Kevin Maxwell, George Soros and Norman Lamont

that leaving the ERM and devaluation were not on the government's agenda. "The soft option, the devaluer's option, to raise modest levels of income to 5% per cent was not a good way of endearing the Labour party to Britain's middle classes, or of winning a general election."

Access Award for Most Flexible Friend. No shift in economic policy was too much for our accommodating winner. You wanted high interest rates — you got them. Low rates — no problem. Zero inflation or economic growth — name your target and our man delivers. As for the exchange-rate mechanism, he can take it or leave it. Without a scintilla of doubt, step forward Norman Lamont.

Teflon Non-stick Award. To Sir Terence Burns, who is still permanent secretary to the Treasury, Sir Terence is forecasting that he will collect his prize in March. See you in November, Terry.

Norman Lamont Prize for Economic Consistency. To John Major, who told the Scottish CBI on September 10

that leaving the ERM and devaluation were not on the government's agenda. "The soft option, the devaluer's option, to raise modest levels of income to 5% per cent was not a good way of endearing the Labour party to Britain's middle classes, or of winning a general election."

PR Gaffe of the Year. Mr Bryan was a strong commander in this category as well, although in the end he was comfortably beaten by Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary. Mr Heseltine's political career is not expected to recover from the outcry that greeted his announcement in October that he planned to close 31 British Coal pits with the loss of 30,000 jobs. Nor was the British coal industry until the High Court declared the decision unlawful in December.

The Winston Churchill Prize for Supreme Sacrifice. Never so much been owed by so few. So much was the small matter of more than £4 billion of underwriting losses incurred between 1988-90. So few were the dwindling band of British gentry forced to foot the bill. As the year came to a close, it looked likely that the number of gallant band of Lloyd's names still able to satisfy the solvency requirements would fall below 20,000. All those that remain share the big cash prize, which as normal will be collected by a working member.

The Paul Reichmann Award for Property Speculation. To Barclays Bank, which proved it had an unerring nose for an over-priced property deal. Imry, Rosemang Heron, Canary Wharf, Mountleath — Barclays lent to them all. Trevor Osborne, of Speyhawk, spoke for the property industry when in May he told Sir John Quinton, Barclays' chairman: "Sir John, we owe you more than we can ever repay." Sir John will,

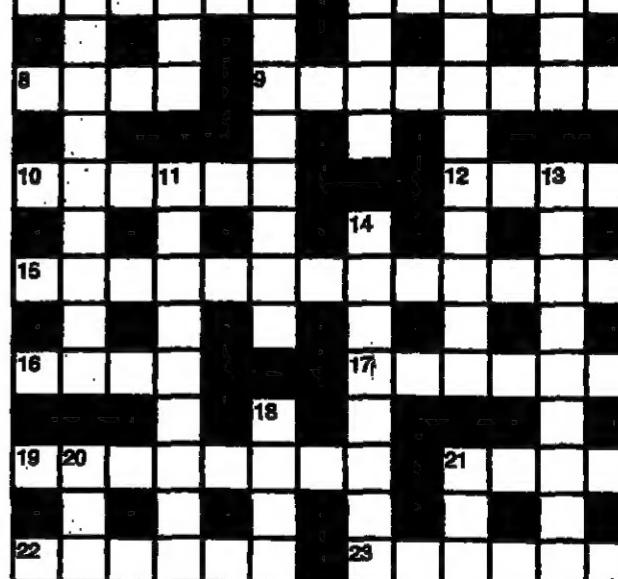
collect the prize next month, after his retirement.

The Black Hole of Bombay.

To Standard Chartered

Bank which discovered that lending to investors on the Bombay stock market could have lost it more than £100 million. Rodney Galpin, Standard Chartered's chairman, will collect this prize in June, after his retirement.

### CONCISE CROSSWORD NO. 2981



#### ACROSS

- 1 Bets (6)
- 5 In arrears (6)
- 8 Scratch (4)
- 9 Great stone block (8)
- 10 Canoe blade (6)
- 12 School intake (4)
- 15 Games champion (6,7)
- 16 Support (4)
- 17 Stou stick (6)
- 19 Talent (8)
- 21 S African colonist (4)
- 22 Specialist (6)
- 23 Neutralise (6)

#### SOLUTION TO NO. 2980

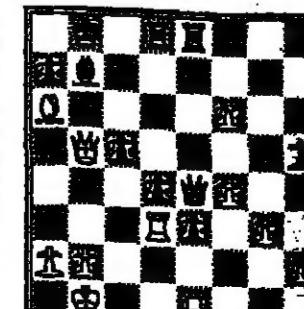
- ACROSS: 1 Walter Raleigh 2 Leg up 9 Cobbled 10 One
- 11 Irons 12 Drafts 14 Memory 16 Afghan 20 Offhand
- 23 Nails 24 Orc 25 Rancour 26 Loose 27 Treasury Bills
- DOWN: 1 William Dorrit 2 Leg room 3 Exposer 4 Recede
- 5 Libya 6 Inter 7 Hedge one's bets 13 Fag 15 Och
- 17 Fanclub 18 Hair oil 19 Adorer 21 Fence 22 Atoms

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#### WINNING MOVE

Grandmasters Artur Yusupov and Jon Speelman were both world championship semi-finalists in 1989, but in their game from the Foreign & Colonial Hastings Premier 1989/90, Speelman, playing black, overlooked a possibility to win material. Can you see what he missed? British grandmasters Nunn and Speelman will be among the eight players in the top section at this year's Hastings tournament. Further details from the British Chess Federation on 0242 442500 (Raymond Keene).

#### Solution on page 16.



#### WORD-WATCHING

##### SLANG

##### CREEPING JESUS

- a. A Jesuit missionary
- b. A brown-noser
- c. An ejaculation

##### PIKING

- a. To ogle lasciviously
- b. The withers
- c. Cheating

##### GOOGIE

- a. A drug king
- b. An egg

##### Answers on page 16

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## Cheers to a £24bn drinks bill

By MARTIN WALLER AND DEREK HARRIS

BRITAIN is heading for a £24.3 billion hangover after the Christmas and new year festivities. This is the amount the population will have spent on drink in 1992, and a quarter of that will have been taken home, according to a report on off-licences from Verdict Research, the specialist retail consultant.

The paper charts the decline of the public house in favour of the off-licence and big supermarket chains. The increasing popularity of wine, and the inability of the average pub to provide the standard expected by a more discriminating population, is also helping the off-trade to make gains.

Verdict says that Britain

will grow ever more abstemious. Spending on drink will have risen 3 per cent in 1992, behind the overall rise in consumer spending.

Separate research commissioned by the Scotch Whisky Association shows for the first time how far whisky distillers' problems can have a knock-on effect outside the industry. Although exports of Scotch whisky are holding up, sales in the UK have fallen this year 10 per cent, or by about 1 million cases, raising fears of short-time working in the industry and possible job losses.

The number of those directly employed in the whisky industry has been reduced to 15,000, but the research

shows that 56,000 jobs outside the industry are dependent on Scotch making. The industry annually buys in £836 million in goods and services from UK sources.

Scotch exports are running at £1.8 billion a year with 85 per cent of production going abroad.

The Scotch whisky makers are campaigning for more equal taxation of drinks, based on alcohol content. A glass of whisky and one of wine contain the same amount of alcohol yet excise duty on the whisky is 23p against 12p on the wine, the association says.

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